FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

Daily Report

Central Eurasia

ATTENTION!! **ATTENTION!!** **ATTENTION!!**

FBIS will phase out publication of most of its paper reports, including ALL Daily Reports and most FBIS Reports, by 31 December 1996.

See inside for information on how to access FBIS products and services electronically.

FBIS-SOV-96-130
Friday
5 July 1996

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Dear Customer:

Responding to our many customers' requests, NTIS is offering FBIS publications electronically. Due to resource limitations, hardcopy production of FBIS publications will be phased out during 1996. Hardcopy reports will be discontinued according to the following schedule:

1 April	*Arms Control and Proliferation Issues*
1 May	*Environment and World Health*
1 June	*Narcotics*
1 July	*Terrorism*

Hardcopy publication of the regional DAILY REPORTS will cease as follows:

1 August	*China, Latin America*
19 August	*Near East and South Asia, West Europe, Sub-Saharan Africa, West Europe Economic Review*
2 September	*East Asia, East Europe, East Europe Economic Review*
16 September	*Central Eurasia, Central Eurasia Military Affairs, Central Eurasia Economic Review*

FBIS' goal is to cease publication of all hardcopy reports by 31 December 1996 except for S&T PERSPECTIVES, S&T CENTRAL EURASIA, S&T CHINA, S&T KOREA, S&T EUROPE, and S&T JAPAN. The S&T reports will continue to be published as hardcopy until the graphics they contain can be disseminated on-line.

FBIS products are offered electronically through the National Technical Information Service's (NTIS) "World News Connection" (WNC). This is a new on-line subscription service accessible through the World Wide Web. The Web address is http://wnc.fedworld.gov. Please see the next page for a subscription form or call NTIS Fax Direct at 703-487-4140 and enter product code 8645 to receive more information.

World News Connection™

A Foreign News Alert Service from the U.S. Government

World News Connection - WNC1.....**$ 21**
7 Day - Introductory Offer
Unlimited interactive searching
[no profiles]
Order number SUB-9856BDQ

World News Connection - WNC2.....**$ 50**
Monthly
Unlimited interactive searching
[no profiles]
Order number PB95-985700BDQ

World News Connection - WNC3.....**$ 75**
Monthly
Unlimited interactive searching
[1 profile]
Order number PB95-985800BDQ

World News Connection - WNC4.....**$100**
Monthly
Unlimited interactive searching
[up to 5 profiles]
Order number PB95-985900BDQ
(Prices are subject to change)

User Name *(Please Print or Type)*	**Internet E-mail Address** *(Required)*	**Order Number**	**Price**
1) _____	_____	_____	_____
2) _____	_____	_____	_____

(Continue on a blank sheet if more space is required)

Deposit Account Number (for NTIS account customers only): _____

Customer Master Number (if known): _____ **Date:** _____

Contact Name: _____ **Organization:** _____

Street Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Province/Territory: _____ **Country:** _____

Foreign Postal Code: _____

Internet E-mail Address (Organization contact person): _____

Telephone Number: ( ) _____ **Fax Number:** ( ) _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Credit Card Expiration Date: _____

Card Type (Visa, Master Card, or American Express): _____

Cardholder's Name (as printed on the credit card): _____

Cardholder's Signature (required to validate all orders): _____

(Please fax this form back to NTIS at 703-321-8547. Fax service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
To verify receipt of your fax, call (703) 487-4679 between 7:00am - 5:00pm, Monday - Friday, Eastern Time.)

Daily Report
Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-96-130 *5 July 1996*

CONTENTS

NOTICE: An * indicates material not previously disseminated in electronic form.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION ISSUES

Russia: Yeltsin Thanks Russian Citizens Following Reelection *[Moscow ORT]* 1
Russia: Yeltsin Holds Phone Conference With 'Power Ministers' *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
Russia: Yeltsin Likely To Choose Chernomyrdin for Premier *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
Russia: Yeltsin Win Seen Leading to Greater Stability *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 5 Jul]* 1
Russia: Yeltsin Seen as Composite of Failed 1st Round Opponents *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 5 Jul]* 2
Russia: Military Spokesman Says Most Servicemen Voted for Yeltsin *[INTERFAX]* 3
Russia: Chernomyrdin Gives Statement on Election at News Conference *[Moscow Radio]* 3
Russia: Chernomyrdin Comments on Election Results *[ITAR-TASS]* 4
Russia: Chernomyrdin Rules Out Coalition Government *[ITAR-TASS]* 4
Russia: Chernomyrdin Sees 'No Particular Need' for Vice President *[INTERFAX]* 4
Russia: Chernomyrdin May Run for President in Future *[ITAR-TASS]* 5
Russia: Yeltsin Aide Satarov Discusses Election Victory *[INTERFAX]* 5
Russia: Yeltsin's Top Aide Views Future of Campaign Team, Chubays *[ITAR-TASS]* 5
Russia: Clinton Message, Other U.S. Comments on Election Result *[IZVESTIYA 5 Jul]* 6
Russia: Paper Rounds Up World Reaction to Election Result *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 5 Jul]* 6
Russia: Paper Comments on Election, Possible Personnel Moves *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 12 Jul]* 7
Russia: Electoral Commission Officials Analyze Election Results *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
Russia: CPRF's Shabanov, Isakov, Seleznev Comment on Election Results *[IZVESTIYA 5 Jul]* 8
Russia: Electoral Commission Gives Number of Votes Cast *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 5 Jul]* 9
Russia: Voting Figures for Individual Regions Published *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 5 Jul]* 9
Russia: Yeltsin Wins Majority of Russians' Votes in Ukraine *[UNIAN]* 13
Russia: Most Russian Citizens in Moldova Vote for Zyuganov *[INTERFAX]* 13
Russia: Yeltsin Wins 68.6 Percent of Kazakh Expatriate Vote *[INTERFAX]* 13
Russia: Yeltsin Wins Expatriate Vote in Tajikistan *[INTERFAX]* 14
Russia: 49.5 Percent of Russians in Turkmenistan Favor Zyuganov *[ITAR-TASS]* 14
Russia: Yeltsin Wins Support of Voters in Uzbekistan *[INTERFAX]* 14
Russia: 53.5 Percent of Russians in Azerbaijan Vote for Yeltsin *[ITAR-TASS]* 14
Russia: 77.1 Percent of Russians in Estonia Vote for Zyuganov *[INTERFAX]* 14
Russia: Most Russian Citizens in Lithuania Vote for Zyuganov *[INTERFAX]* 15
Russia: Yeltsin Wins 'Landslide Victory' in St. Petersburg *[ITAR-TASS]* 15
Russia: Zyuganov Casts Vote, Says Observers To Count Votes 'Honestly' *[Moscow NTV]* 15
Russia: Zyuganov Condemns Statements on Preparations for Civil War *[INTERFAX]* 15
Russia: Zyuganov Refuses To Admit Defeat Before 'Real Results' Known *[Moscow 2x2 TV]* 15
Russia: Zyuganov Holds News Conference, Congratulates Yeltsin *[ITAR-TASS]* 16
Russia: Zyuganov Hints at Forming 'Shadow Cabinet' *[ITAR-TASS]* 16
Russia: Reasons for Zyuganov's Defeat Examined *[SELSKAYA ZHIZN 5 Jul]* 16
Russia: Lebed Welcomes Election Result, Refuses To Discuss Future *[Moscow 2x2 TV]* 17
Russia: Yavlinskiy Not To Join Government Unless Chechen War Ended *[Moscow 2x2 TV]* 18
Russia: Cabinet To Resign After Election in Line With Constitution *[INTERFAX]* 18
Russia: Zavgayev Calls 3 Jul Election 'Referendum' on Chechnya *[INTERFAX]* 18
Russia: Elections 'Surprisingly Calm' in Chechnya; Turnout High *[ITAR-TASS]* 19
Russia: Electoral Commissions Said To Have Spent R700 Billion *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 5 Jul]* 19
Russia: Bomb Scare Interrupts Voting at 2 Polling Stations in Perm *[ITAR-TASS]* 19

Russia: Two Dead Bodies Found at Polling Station in Far East *[INTERFAX]* 19

INTERREGIONAL AFFAIRS

CIS: ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 5 Jul 20
Baltics: Yeltsin Claims Ethnic Russian Rights in Baltics Infringed *[INTERFAX]* 20

RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Russia: Western Concern for Media Freedom Cited *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 5 Jul]* 22
Russia: OSCE Observer Says Elections Democratic, Free *[Budapest Radio]* 23
Russia: PRC Congratulates Yeltsin on Electoral Win *[ITAR-TASS]* 23
Russia: Japanese Premier Hopes Yeltsin Will Continue Reforms *[INTERFAX]* 23
Russia: Prime Minister Major Congratulates Yeltsin Victory *[RIA]* 24
Russia: Canadian PM Congratulates Yeltsin on Reelection *[ITAR-TASS]* 24
Russia: Swedish Foreign Minister Praises Russian Election Results *[ITAR-TASS]* 24
Russia: Yeltsin Win Might Promote Russo-Ukrainian Treaty *[ITAR-TASS]* 25
Russia: Chernomyrdin Says Russia To Cooperate Closely With Ukraine *[ITAR-TASS]* 25
Russia: DPRK Warned Not To Restart Graphite-Moderated Reactors *[Moscow International]* 25
Russia: Bomb Smugglers Detained 1 Jul *[BNS]* 26

RUSSIA NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political Issues

Russia: Yeltsin Receives Chernomyrdin, Moscow Mayor Luzhkov *[Moscow ORT]* 27
Russia: Yeltsin Orders Chernomyrdin To Review Decrees *[ITAR-TASS]* 27
Russia: Yeltsin Forms Single State Protection Service *[INTERFAX]* 27
Russia: President's Health Should Not Be State Secret *[IZVESTIYA 5 Jul]* 27
Russia: Chernomyrdin Orders Improvements in Budget, Taxation *[INTERFAX]* 28
Russia: Chernomyrdin 4 Jul News Briefing, Government Tasks Detailed *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 5 Jul]* 28
Russia: Zyuganov Sees 'Two-Party' System Developing *[INTERFAX]* 29
Russia: Yavlinskiy Addresses News Conference *[Moscow Radio]* 29
Russia: Lebed Pledges To 'Cool Down' Hot Spots 'Quite Quickly' *[IZVESTIYA 5 Jul]* 30
Russia: Zhirinovskiy Willing To Be Justice Minister *[Moscow NTV]* 31
Russia: Deputy Premier Yarov Explains Social Reform Goals *[Moscow Radio]* 31
Russia: 'Russia Is Our Home' Set To Become Political Party *[INTERFAX]* 31
Russia: Presidential Council Member Says Government Base To Increase *[INTERFAX]* 32

Military Issues

Russia: Yeltsin Orders Proper Fuel Supplies to Armed Forces *[INTERFAX]* 32
Russia: Rokhlin Accuses Grachev of Corruption *[ITAR-TASS]* 32
Russia: Military Prosecutor's Office Reacts to Grachev Corruption *[ITAR-TASS]* 33
Russia: Rodionov, Kobets Said Main Candidates for Defense Ministry *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 5 Jul]* 33
Russia: Duma Deputy Proposes Candidates for Defense Minister *[INTERFAX]* 33
Russia: Minister Pak Interviewed on Outlook for Defense Sector *[RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA 28 Jun]* 34

Federal Assembly

Russia: Speaker Believes Duma Will Reapprove Chernomyrdin *[INTERFAX]* 36
Russia: Duma Committee Demands Confirmation of Defense Minister *[Moscow Radio]* 36
Russia: Prospects of Rybkin Directing Duma Once Again Examined *[KURANTY 2 Jul]* 36

Russia: Shakhray, Others Seek Democratic Majority Coalition in Duma *[ITAR-TASS]* 37

Regional Affairs

Russia: Russian, Chechen Delegations Meet South of Groznyy *[INTERFAX]* 38
Russia: Chechens Demand To Talk to 'Higher-Level' Officials *[AFP]* 38
Russia: Delegation Fails To Make Headway at Talks in Chechnya *[ITAR-TASS]* 38
Russia: Two Brigades Set for Withdrawal From Chechnya in Jul *[Moscow RTV]* 39

Economic Issues

Russia: No 'Instant Improvement' in Economy To Follow Election *[FINANSOVYYE IZVESTIYA 2 Jul]* 39
Russia: Election Result's Economic Implications Viewed *[IZVESTIYA 5 Jul]* 40
Russia: Market Traders 'Feeling Good' About Yeltsin Win *[IZVESTIYA 5 Jul]* 41
Russia: Post-Election Economic Problems Considered *[TRUD-7 5 Jul]* 42

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Ukraine: Kuchma Congratulates Yeltsin on Election Victory *[INTERFAX]* 44
Ukraine: Kuchma Welcomes Yeltsin's Win, Views Russian Relations *[UNIAN]* 44
Ukraine: Kuchma Wary on Future Relations With Russia *[INTERFAX]* 44
Ukraine: Deputy Prime Minister Views Yeltsin Victory *[INTERFAX]* 45
Ukraine: Public Figures View Russian Election Outcome *[INTERFAX]* 45
Ukraine: Rukh Leader: Yeltsin's Victory 'Lesser Evil' *[INTERFAX]* 46
Ukraine: Sevastopol Head Says Yeltsin Win Will Help BSF Settlement *[INTERFAX]* 46
Ukraine: Kuchma on European Integration, Cooperation With NATO *[UNIAN]* 46
Ukraine: Udovenko Criticized for Speaking 'Inaccurately' About NATO *[INFOBANK]* 46

National Affairs

Ukraine: Vice Premier Comments on Resignation, New Government *[INFOBANK]* 47
Ukraine: Justice Minister Resigns Parliament Seat, Remains in Office *[UNIAN]* 47
Ukraine: 60 Mines Being Struck Over Wage Arrears *[INFOBANK]* 47
Ukraine: Workers Threaten 'Autumn Offensive' of Mass Strikes *[UNIAN]* 47
Ukraine: Tatar Leaders Voice Resentment at Kiev's 'Open Neglect' *[UKRINFORM]* 48
Ukraine: Crimean Tatars See Future Within Ukrainian State *[INTERFAX]* 48

WESTERN REGION

Belarus

Belarus: Lukashenka Interviewed on Russian Election Results *[Minsk Radio]* 49
Belarus: Lukashenka Welcomes Yeltsin Presidential Victory *[INTERFAX]* 50
Belarus: Reactions to Russian Election Outcome *[INTERFAX]* 50
Belarus: Belarus Suspends Withdrawal of Nuclear Missiles to Russia *[INTERFAX]* 51
Belarus: President's Aide: Belarus Opposes NATO Expansion *[INTERFAX]* 51

Moldova

Moldova: Snegur Hails Yeltsin Victory *[INTERFAX]* 51
Moldova: Yeltsin's Victory To Speed Up Dniester Conflict Solution *[INTERFAX]* 51
Moldova: Dniester Leader Optimistic About Accords With Moldova *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 2 Jul]* 52

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan: President Congratulates Yeltsin on Victory *[Almaty TV]* 54

Kazakhstan: Nazarbayev Hails 'Normal' Election in Russia *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 2 Jul]* 54
Kazakhstan: PRC'S Jiang Zemin Arrives on 3-Day Visit *[INTERFAX]* 54
Kazakhstan: Nazarbayev, Jiang Zemin Sign Joint Declaration *[INTERFAX]* 55

Russia: Yeltsin Thanks Russian Citizens Following Reelection

LD0407084696 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian 0800 GMT 4 Jul 96

[Address by Russian President Boris Yeltsin "to the citizens of Russia" following his reelection; in Moscow on 4 July — recorded; from the "Novosti" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear fellow citizens of Russia: The announcement of the official results of the voting still lies ahead. But the most important outcome is already known: the presidential election has been validly conducted. It was free and honest. On 3 July we all chose a future for our country. I am proud of the fact that we have came through this test. I am proud of Russia. I am proud of you, the people of Russia. Yesterday you stood up for your right to choose; nobody will now take that away from you. This is your merit, your victory. I thank everyone who turned up at the polling stations to exercise their civic duty.

The election campaign was very strenuous. We argued a lot, and each defended his position. But you have solved this argument. I am confident that a new team will accommodate all those whom you trust. Let us not divide the country into winners and losers. Let us work. After all, we have single Russia: a big and enormous country. We have the same Russia and the same fate, hence the same future. On 3 July you once again proved to yourselves and the whole world that Russia is a great country and that we are a great people. Together we will revive Russia. Thank you. [Video shows Yeltsin seated at a desk with banners on either side of him. He sits with his hands before him on the desk. He smiles slightly as he gives the speech]

Russia: Yeltsin Holds Phone Conference With 'Power Ministers'

LD0507090596 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0755 GMT 5 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW July 5 (Itar-Tass) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin held a telephone hot-line conference with his "power ministers" on Friday, his press service said.

It added that the head of state received from the "power ministers", who are the heads of the Interior, Security, Defence departments, as well as the Foreign minister "their reports on the state of affairs and proposals and set the tasks on further activisation of their work and strengthening the interaction between their ministries and departments".

No other details were available.

Russia: Yeltsin Likely To Choose Chernomyrdin for Premier

LD0307213996 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1943 GMT 3 Jul 96

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Yevdokimov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 3 Jul (Itar-Tass) — If Boris Yeltsin wins the presidential elections, he will most likely propose Viktor Chernomyrdin as prime minister to the State Duma, Vyacheslav Nikonov, a member of the election headquarters of Boris Yeltsin, told the ITAR-TASS correspondent today.

According to preliminary reports, Boris Yeltsin is in the lead as regards the results of the second round of the Russian presidential elections, which took place today.

Russia: Yeltsin Win Seen Leading to Greater Stability

MM0507105496 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 2

[Interviews with Georgiy Satarov, assistant to the Russian Federation president for political questions; Aleksandr Shokhin, first deputy chairman of the State Duma; and Sergey Karaganov, member of the Presidential Council, by Dmitriy Orlov; place and date not given: "Lightning Prognosis"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Boris Yeltsin's second-round win became a fait accompli as early as the late evening of 3 July, when voting had ended and vote counting was complete in Russia's eastern regions. Do you expect any change in the situation in the country after the election? How do you see the process of forming the executive branch over the next two or three months? ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI's correspondent was "quick off the mark" in putting these questions to well-known politicians and experts.

Georgiy Satarov, assistant to the Russian Federation president for political questions:

"The situation in the country will clearly stabilize following the election. The Communist Party is hardly going to dispute the results of the 3 July voting. In practice the presidential election ushers in a new era in Russian politics.

"Boris Yeltsin's lead over his rival proved far greater than expected, but the major support given to the leader of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation must also be taken into account in political life. It will invariably influence relations between the president and parliament.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

"The government will resign and the prime minister will be presented to the Duma in the country for the first time. In this context my attitude to the prospect of a government coalition remains as before: The government must fundamentally be professional, above all."

Aleksandr Shokhin, first deputy chairman of the State Duma:

"Of course the situation in the country will stabilize in a major way in the very near future. The confrontation of the preelection period must, perforce, give way to a coordination of interests. It is perfectly possible that particular political forces will be able to delegate to the government professionals who will work in the same team. There are such people in Grigoriy Yavlinskiy's team, and our faction — the NDR [Russia Is Our Home] — cooperates with them normally in the Duma. There are also some in other factions and among the independent candidates. A perfectly professional government with a broader social base than at present could well be created in the very near future.

"In going to the State Duma to be approved — this is to happen for the first time in our history in the middle of August — the premier must be ready to compromise with various forces. But I will emphasize that it is a question of broadening the social base of a professional government, not of creating a coalition government. It is hard to imagine how a Cabinet of Ministers will function which includes Yavlinskiy, Zhirinovskiy, Zyuganov.... We could lose governability."

Sergey Karaganov, member of the Presidential Council:

"I believe that three or four months after Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin's win the situation in the country will be considerably more stable than today. The economic situation must improve very soon, since both credits and investments stood still on the eve of the election because of the uncertainty over the political course.

"A coalition government, a government founded on the parties' representation, would be simply unable to function in a period of reforms. The president is faced with soon forming a new government, and it will certainly be a government of professionals whose political allegiance must not be too important a factor. A broadening of the regime's social base must be achieved not by bringing representatives of the opposition into the structures of executive power (at any rate, not so much by doing that) but by implementing a policy geared to meeting the requirements of broad sections of the population."

Russia: Yeltsin Seen as Composite of Failed 1st Round Opponents

MM0407192196 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 2

["Editor's Column" article by Vladimir Mamontov under the general heading "Head of Russia Elected Democratically for the First Time in Its History"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Vladivostok — Well.... Let us see what kind of president we have. What kind of wings are there behind his back? Is he an angel, perhaps? No, he is just a Swan [pun on Lebed's name] and this is why he has flown into the Kremlin. "Do not dare say the name Saint-Saens aloud!" [French composer who wrote a piece entitled The Swan] And what are these wavy dark curls among the sleek gray? No, these are not curls, this is the golden fleece of Yavlinskiy's votes sheared off by the president no matter how hard the poor liberal lamb struggled. (And do not dare call it a "ram" — the man watched over it himself and did not notice anything — good or bad — going on).

And whose are the president's vigilant eyes? It seems that they belong to our ophthalmologist Fedorov; after all, his patients were distressed that the surgeon did not make it into round two so they switched their votes to the incumbent....

The president's coat clearly has yellow spots: This is Zhirinovskiy's second-hand coat. After all, what did Volfovich decide to do? In order to be in opposition to someone, that someone has to come to power....

We have a motley president. Look from one side and he is a shabby villager. Look from the other side and he is a mischievous rock-n-roller.... His trousers are patched with our undying hopes and in the eyes our very cautious reminder: "Don't let things get any worse!"

The old people, who believed that he is doing everything to protect their children and grandchildren, are for him. The new class, those who are already living well, are for him. Luzhkov's new beltway and Nemtsov's Nizhniy Novgorod fair wholeheartedly vote for him. The Chubayses, Korzhakovs, and Barsukovs, who were removed at the opportune moment, are holding out their hands from their place behind the scenes....

This elderly, hoarse, inconsistent, ursine, cygneous, rustically strong, and indefatigably tenacious man burst into the finishing straight...and again become the standard bearer of the reforms and the hope of better things to come.

He doesn't cut an impressive figure? It cannot be helped: We fashioned him out of what there was....

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Russia: Military Spokesman Says Most Servicemen Voted for Yeltsin

LD0407085696 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0748 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 4 (Interfax) — Most servicemen voting at closed polling stations cast their ballots for the current president, Boris Yeltsin, a well-informed source in Russia's Defense Ministry, close to the working group for organizing the second round of presidential elections, told Interfax on Thursday.

According to him, the special polling stations located beyond Russia yielded the following results: in the group of Russian troops stationed in Trans-Caucasus (together with civilians) 71.1 percent voted for Yeltsin, in the Black Sea Fleet 60 percent, in strategic missile forces 71 percent, in the space forces 74.9 percent, in the peacekeeping contingents 67.2 percent.

Overall the results of voting at the special polling stations, not taking into account the civilian personnel, total 82 percent in favor of Yeltsin, the source said.

Most servicemen and their family members voting at the closed polling stations within Russia also cast their ballots for Yeltsin, he noted.

For instance, over 80 percent of the ballots were cast for Yeltsin in the Kamchatka Flotilla, in the 2nd Submarine Flotilla, in the 5th Task Army, and in the Biysk, Yurgensk and Kochenevo garrisons of the Siberian Military District.

"86.6 percent of servicemen in the federal group of troops deployed in Chechnya also voted for Yeltsin," the source said.

Russia: Chernomyrdin Gives Statement on Election at News Conference

LD0407094096 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 0810 GMT 4 Jul 96

[Statement by Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin to a news conference following Yeltsin reelection, in Moscow — live]

[FBIS Translated Text] A great deal of work has been done. For all of us, especially those seated in this hall, this work has not been easy. It's been hard work — so hard that it will do all of us for a long time. It's been so hard that perhaps now, as never before, we need to settle, take stock, make sense of it all, and talk about what we need to do to move forward.

I am convinced — and not only I, but all of us — that Russia has made its choice, that we, the Russian people, have chosen our path. These are our people, this is our country. I am proud today — I cannot find the words, they stick in my throat — I am proud of the fact that it is the Russian people who have chosen this path. I am proud that the election has taken place, that there were no restrictions, there were no cancellations, and that these were real democratic elections. And the Russian people have made their choice. I would like from the bottom of my heart to say to everyone: Thank you very much, thank you for your support, thank you for your understanding. I would particularly like to address warm words to those people for whom things are particularly difficult today, and who have made this choice. I am convinced that today, as never before, we must think about the future, and that we — the government, the leaders, especially the executive power, and I mean the whole of executive power in Russia — must think today about how to start a new page in Russia.

There will be no respite; we must begin our work calmly, confidently, and clearly. And the great faith which our great people has shown in us must be justified. And I am convinced that we shall. I would particularly like to take this opportunity to address the warmest and kindest words to President Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin and to congratulate him, above all, on this great victory — a victory for the sake of Russia. Warmest thanks to him for what he has done, especially recently, to convince all of us, convince the country and to convince the world that Russia is a normal, civilized country, a predictable one, and that Russia could never change this path. So I would like, from the bottom of my heart, to congratulate and pay tribute to this man.

I must say in my official capacity that, of course, today I have already held a conference with my leadership and my deputies. We have defined priority measures. We have defined in general terms what we shall be doing in government and for the government. As set out in the Russian Constitution, the government must relinquish its powers before the president.

This will be done. The president has issued the instruction to form a new government and we will do that. As Boris Nikolayevich said, there will be room for everyone who wants to work, who wants to get things done, who is able to do this. I believe that we will have a new government soon.

I would therefore once again like to use this high rostrum to speak to all Russians, to you, my dear friends, representatives of the mass media, with whose participation a great deal has been done, a great deal. We have come through a great deal in these difficult days for Russia.

Today we can say: the choice has been made for all time. Today it is democracy that has triumphed in Russia. It

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

has triumphed for all time. There will be no other way in Russia.

Thank you very much indeed.

Russia: Chernomyrdin Comments on Election Results

LD0507084896 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0659 GMT 5 Jul 96

[ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Yezhov]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Moscow, 5 July (Itar-Tass) — [passage omitted] Prime Minister Chernomyrdin stated: There should be no agitation. The present government team will continue to work in a calm manner at implementing documents and promises issued in the run-up to the elections. There is serious work ahead.

Chernomyrdin emphasized that trust in the Russian president, in the reelected Russian President Boris Yeltsin, also means trust in the government. We have worked together with the president, preparing documents for implementation.

Chernomyrdin assessed the results of the election as a great victory and they show great trust. We showed the whole world that we have a normal country, a rule-of-law state, the residents of which made their choice in favour of a confident and predictable future, he said.

Russia: Chernomyrdin Rules Out Coalition Government

LD0407105896 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1012 GMT 4 Jul 96

[ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 4 July (ITAR-TASS) — Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Government, has a negative attitude to the idea of forming a coalition government on a political basis. "There is no question of any coalition government. Otherwise it would include politicians who would defend the interests of their movements and parties", the prime minister said at the press center of the Russian movement of public support for Boris Yeltsin today. "Whatever their hue, people in the government must have the same — working — color," Chernomyrdin stressed.

Answering a question on Gennadiy Zyuganov, leader of the People's Patriotic Bloc, possibly joining the new cabinet of ministers, the prime minister said that he had not thought about that yet. And he made it clear that everything was possible: "provided there is a will, especially as the social bloc is a complex one."

On this subject Viktor Chernomyrdin added that currently work on a program of reforms in the social sphere — medicine, health care and education — was in progress. The government, he said, planned to use credits for these programs.

On the possible participation in the government of the Yabloko fraction leader Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, the prime minister remarked sarcastically: "Has he really ever done anything?" His "500 days" program, Chernomyrdin said, "we have already seen and, thank God, it never got a chance to be completed." "We need responsible people working in the government," he added.

Viktor Chernomyrdin expressed his conviction that the State Duma "is concerned about the economic situation and is considering action." I do not think that things could go as far as dissolving the lower chamber, the premier said. He considers that "the Duma will take a measured approach to all matters, including the confirmation of the government and prime minister".

Today the chairman of the State Duma, Gennadiy Seleznev, expressed confidence that Viktor Chernomyrdin's candidacy for the prime ministership will, if proposed by the President, be confirmed by the Duma. In a conversation with parliamentary correspondents at the end of a sitting of the chamber's council, Seleznev stressed: "We will request Boris Yeltsin to propose a candidate for the premiership to us in the shortest possible time." He also explained that in this connection the Duma will have to change its working timetable and take a parliamentary recess at a later time.

Russia: Chernomyrdin Sees 'No Particular Need' for Vice President

LD0407103096 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1019 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 4 (Interfax) — The post of vice president in Russia can be introduced in real terms only at the next presidential elections, Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin told a news conference on Thursday.

"Amendments to the present constitution will have to be made for this," he said in comment on statements by Security Council Secretary Aleksandr Lebed as to the expediency of introducing such a post. He has never heard of a country electing its vice president separately from its president, he explained.

"Therefore even if the necessary amendment to the constitution is made, the vice president will be elected at the next presidential elections together with the president," Chernomyrdin said.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Expressing his personal attitude to the introduction of vice presidency in Russia, Chernomyrdin said that he sees "no particular need for this."

Russia: Chernomyrdin May Run for President in Future

LD0407104296 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0938 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 4 July (Itar-Tass) — Viktor Chernomyrdin, the chairman of the Russian Government, has not ruled out that in the future he may stand for the Russian presidency. At the current elections "I stated firmly that I would not do this," he stated today at an ITAR-TASS press conference. "As to the future, time will tell," the prime minister added.

Responding to a question from an ITAR-TASS correspondent whether there was a possibility of the presidential elections in the year 2000 being compared with the present ones with regard to political confrontation with the communist opposition, Viktor Chernomyrdin said that "nothing of the kind will happen again, when instead of presidential elections they tried to impose on us a choice between systems." He said that now it was a question, not of choosing a certain candidate, but of choosing Russia's path and "a system under which the people intend to live". There will be nothing of the kind since the people have made their choice, the prime minister concluded.

Russia: Yeltsin Aide Satarov Discusses Election Victory

LD0407021496 Moscow Interfax in English 0148 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 4 (Interfax) — "The election victory — and a victory it is — entails new great challenges, President Yeltsin's political adviser said at a briefing at the press-center of the movement in Yeltsin's support early Thursday morning.

He said that the gap between the two presidential candidates — Boris Yeltsin and Communist Party leader Gennadiy Zyuganov was about 14 percent and apparently it would remain even after the final returns were announced.

Satarov said that Yeltsin had placed farther ahead of Zyuganov than his team had anticipated. At the same time he confessed that Yeltsin's main rival, Gennadiy Zyuganov, had a big following.

Satarov pointed out that the election proved a method to teach the authorities good manners: for the first time ever the election is to be followed by the resignation of the government and a new candidate prime minister will be presented to the State Duma. "Consultations on the Cabinet and its policy will begin and that would be a very important event in the country's life," Satarov said.

"This factor would influence the relationship between the government and the Federal Assembly. There will certainly be numerous consultations on the future composition of bodies of power," he said.

About his attitude to the idea of a coalition government Satarov said that the "standard formula of such a government was acceptable in a parliamentary republic." Russia, he recalled, was not a parliamentary republic, but a presidential one. Under the Constitution the president presents the head of the cabinet to parliament, and the prime minister then forms the government. "A dialogue, of course, will be held, but not in the sense the Communist Party leader Gennadiy Zyuganov proposed, when he said that each of the political forces should have one-third in a future Cabinet," Satarov said.

About National Security Council Secretary Aleksandr Lebed's statement concerning the restoration of the office of vice-president Satarov said that for that the constitution would have to be changed considerably and that was a remote possibility. He believes that Aleksandr Lebed himself had realized that.

Asked when President Yeltsin would address the nation, his aide said that the address would be made soon. "As for the analysis of the returns, that will take time after the official results are announced," Satarov said.

Asked about the future of the current State Duma speaker Gennadiy Seleznev, Satarov said that attempts were being made already to replace him and "probably those attempts won't be unsuccessful in the wake of the Communist Party's defeat in the presidential election."

Russia: Yeltsin's Top Aide Views Future of Campaign Team, Chubays

LD0407155696 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1532 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, 4 Jul (ITAR-TASS) — Only time will make absolutely clear how much Yeltsin's campaign team and each of its members did for his victory in the presidential elections, according to Viktor Ilyushin, Yeltsin's top aide and a chief campaign organizer.

Ilyushin told a news conference on Thursday that the team was made up of top professionals and should not be allowed to go to waste now that the elections are over.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Asked specifically about Russia's former privatization chief Anatoliy Chubays who headed the group of analysts in Yeltsin's campaign and was reportedly dropped from the team after a moot news conference shortly after the first round of the presidential elections, Ilyushin replied: "this question has already been answered many times." He declined to disclose what either Yeltsin or Chubays had in mind for the latter's future occupation.

Earlier, Chubays said he was not seeking a government post and Yeltsin stated that "he did not plan and is not planning now" to give Chubays a seat in the cabinet.

According to some sources, Yeltsin dropped Chubays from the campaign team after a news conference in the Radisson-Slavyanskaya Hotel in which Chubays told reporters about the behind-the-scenes moves around the detention of two key figures in Yeltsin's campaign team. Chubays' comments gave rise to much controversy.

As regards his role in the work of the campaign team prior to the notorious news conference, Ilyushin gave a positive valuation of Chubays' performance, saying that "for me and my colleagues, it was very interesting to work with such a person as Anatoliy Chubays."

Russia: Clinton Message, Other U.S. Comments on Election Result

MM0407164196 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 3

[Report by Vladimir Nadein: "Lebed's Wings Arrived at Right Time for Yeltsin, Washington Analysts Believe"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Washington — "This electoral process shows how far Russia's political reforms have advanced in the past five years," U.S. President Bill Clinton's written statement says. It was issued late Wednesday evening by the White House press service.

But the first and most cautious reaction to B.N. Yeltsin's victory came from the American-Russian Business Council. "President Yeltsin's victory must be regarded as a mandate for progress along the path of reforms while rectifying its shortcomings along the way."

The council believes that the initial changes that have already been made in the Yeltsin government have had three important consequences.

First, the triumph of the B. Yeltsin-A. Chubays alliance in favor of democracy and reforms over the "dark forces" in the form of Korzhakov, Barsukov, and Soskovets confirmed the government's commitment to a democracy based on market relations. The expulsion of the seven generals to clear the way for Lebed's military reforms also attests to that.

Second, Aleksandr Lebed provides greater confidence than doubt that he will be able to organize the attack on crime and corruption and any progress in this direction automatically improves the climate for foreign investors.

Third, the "Lebed factor" tied Gennadiy Zyuganov's hands in the final 10 days before the vote. Zyuganov's call for a coalition government was also evidence of the strength of the market transformations.

In their first comments, specialists on the Russian economy have said that B. Yeltsin's victory paves the way to a "chudo" ["miracle"]. Like the words "sputnik" and "perestroyka," the Russian word is used here to denote rapid economic growth.

Unlike the politicians and businessmen, the mass media are more skeptical believing that Russia is standing on the threshold of a budget crisis. Although there can be no question of keeping all the promises that B. Yeltsin made during the election, even the things which have already been done have put a brake on financial recovery.

Russia: Paper Rounds Up World Reaction to Election Result

MM0407173996 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA Special Edition in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 5

["Own Information" report: "The Number One News All Over the World"]

[FBIS Translated Text] It turned out as expected: The reports from Moscow on the preliminary results of round two of the Russian presidential election were the number one news story for the world's mass media, which graphically reaffirms the enormous role that our country plays in the world.

Britain

"The world can breathe easily — President Yeltsin has retained his post in a free election. The Russian people have confirmed that they are looking to the future, not to the communist past." That was stated in a BBC TV program by former British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, a leading figure in the ruling Conservative Party. He also noted that Boris Yeltsin is a politician who acts with the greatest vigor at the decisive moments.

The United States

U.S. President Clinton called round two of the Russian presidential election a triumph of democracy. According to the White House statement, he said that the people of Russia can be proud of this truly remarkable achievement. The President believes that the election showed that after decades of communist repression, the people

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

of Russia have asserted their right to express their own opinion on the most important questions.

"Boris Yeltsin has again played an historic role in Russia's transition to democracy," Robert Dole, the main Republican contender in the forthcoming U.S. presidential election, said in a statement issued by his election campaign headquarters. "The first direct presidential election in Russia's history has ended in a democratically achieved victory for President Yeltsin. If the preliminary results are right, the election has firmly demonstrated that the Russian people have rejected their communist past."

At the same time Dole expressed the opinion that "democracy cannot be based on one individual or even on one election." "Events in Russia in the past few years as well as the past few weeks show that there is reason to take a cautious view of the situation that is developing there."

Austria

Austrian Vice Chancellor and Foreign Minister Wolfgang Schuessel has stated: It is gratifying that the election was held freely and that the Russians have expressed confidence in Boris Yeltsin. One can only welcome the predictability of Kremlin policy and the possibility of holding dialogue and of continuing mutually beneficial cooperation with Russia.

This is of no small importance for Austria, Vasiliy Andreyev, ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA own correspondent in Vienna, notes, because it has invested quite a lot of money in the Russian economy and depends itself to a large extent on the supply of Russian gas.

Spain

The Spanish news agency EFE draws attention to the fact that, unlike other East European countries, in Russia the Communist Party has failed to return to power. It is also remarkable that the vote was held in a calm atmosphere in all regions of the country. "The Russian voters have passed the test of political maturity," the agency points out.

Russia: Paper Comments on Election, Possible Personnel Moves

MM0407185596 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5-12 Jul 96 p 5

["Own Information" report: "People and Staff Completely at One"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Phew, we can heave a sigh of relief. At long last we have taken the path which many perfectly normal countries have been following for two centuries now. But what about the president? Why lock himself up in Barvikha near Moscow? Take it easy, there is no need to be afraid. First, according to his closest associates, Boris Nikolayevich has been "worked too hard," and second, there has been nothing like a heart attack or a stroke, it was just a cold causing an ordinary fever and inflammation of the lungs. It took a long time to decide whether Yeltsin should go out among the people and vote. Some people on the presidential team believed that he should not, things will work out fine in any case. They agreed — the vote-casting scene would be played out not at Krylatskiy but in Barvikha, near Moscow. The president courageously gathered his strength and cast his vote.

Even now, after the victory, there is nothing to be done. Success in the presidential race does not affect the course of an illness. There is nothing to be done: A strict regime for about 20 days, and B.N. should have recovered in time for the solemn inauguration ceremony. Look after yourself, Boris Nikolayevich, it is obvious that cold water baths are contraindicated for you. And there is quite a lot to be done in the future. There are quite a few cadres to be reshuffled, if nothing else, and the cadres are awaiting impatiently.

The Army has been missing its minister. And one that is not too civilian-minded. Thus, the intended appointment of a civilian by the name of Kokoshin will have to be postponed until better times. General Lebed is insisting on his colleague General Rodionov and, judging by everything, will get his way. It would not go amiss if some vice premiers, even some first ones, were to get a few rungs higher up the official ladder. But Chernomyrdin, thanks to his firmness and loyalty, deserves to be left in peace at least until December.

A serious clash may flare up over the office of presidential chief of staff. Yegorov's position is not all that secure, even though he managed to organize the staff's work in Moscow and to skillfully guarantee Boris Nikolayevich's success in what appeared to be outright anti-Yeltsin regions. But what is to be done with the permanently active Shakhray who actually worked right there, at the staff? How to treat Filatov, who is planning to go on leave almost until the fall? It looks as if Minister of Sport and Tourism Shamil Tarpishchev is not going on leave but is departing of his own free will. The scandal with the National Sports Foundation and its President Fedorov could not have left him untouched.

It is said that Tatyana Borisovna Yeltsina will also play a certain role in the forthcoming appointments and reshuffles. The president's daughter has evidently made political ties and contacts.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Strength was almost exhausted. The indefatigable journalists were tired but, to the sound of corks popping out of bottles with sparkling wine, they celebrated victory at about 0300-0400 hours at the TASS premises in the capital, where the Yeltsin campaign staff press center was operating. They, in other words we, were joined in the early hours of morning by several people from the presidential team. The had made their way to TASS from the real campaign headquarters at the President Hotel. When asked why here and not there, they replied frankly: "Everyone is so tired over there, they simply could not gather the energy to celebrate. They switched off the lights and went to sleep." Only the most enduring ones, people like Presidential Aide Satarov and Belyayev, leader of the Russia Is Our Home Duma Faction, managed to refresh themselves with a mouthful of reviving moisture at 0430 hours right at the entrance to the TASS building. All's well that seems to end well.

Russia: Electoral Commission Officials Analyze Election Results

LD0407092996 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0918 GMT 4 Jul 96

[By Lyudmila Yermakova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 4 (Itar-Tass) — Following the counting of over 92 percent of votes, it is possible to draw the conclusion that Boris Yeltsin wins the Russian presidency for the second term.

According to information circulated by the Central Election Commission at 08:00, Moscow time, 53.55 percent of the electorate voted for Yeltsin in the second round of the presidential elections (36,351,000 voters), while 40.55 percent (27,528,000) for Gennadiy Zyuganov. A total of 4.9 percent of electors voted against both candidates.

Reporting this data, deputy chairman of the Central Election Commission Aleksandr Ivanchenko noted that Yeltsin placed first in 55 out of 88 subjects of the Russian Federation. Zyuganov leads in the remaining regions. The central commission has not received yet data from Chechnya, the 89th subject of the Russian Federation.

Ivanchenko reported that the commission "will start switching from preliminary information to official" at 18:00 when the commission starts receiving protocols of election commissions.

The central commission confirmed data on the turnout in the election runoff. A total of 67.25 percent of voters participated in the elections. There are 67 million valid balloting papers. More than 99 million voters were put on voting lists.

According to Dmitriy Oreshkin, an analyst of the federal information centre, 92.6 percent of ballots have been processed. The gap between Yeltsin and Zyuganov is equal to 13 percent in Far Eastern regions, two percent in Siberia, 18 percent in the Urals and in the Trans-Ural area and about 13 percent in central Russia.

The analysis of the voting by regions, Oreshkin continued, showed that the gap in comparison with the first round widened in Yeltsin's favour mostly thanks to Aleksandr Lebed's supporters.

According to the analyst, Bashkiria, Dagestan and Khakassia are territories which voted for Zyuganov in the first round and for Yeltsin in the second. Yeltsin gained also an edge in those regions where Lebed collected many votes in the first round: Kaluga, Kostroma, Rostov and Tula regions.

Oreshkin noted that Zyuganov is still in the lead in the Krasnodar Territory: he has 50-odd percent of votes and Yeltsin — 44. A total of 4.9 percent of electors voted against both candidates throughout the country.

This figure rises to five-ten percent in the Far East and only three-five percent in the north of the Tyumen Region and in Yakutia.

According to the information science centre, Yeltsin won additional 15 percent of votes in 20 major regions of the country as compared with the first round. As for Zyuganov, his support by the electorate has also increased somewhat, mostly in the Voronezh Region (16 percent) and minimum in Moscow (two percent).

Yeltsin gained 24 percent of votes more than in the first round (and Zyuganov by six percent more) in St. Petersburg where the turnout rose by over 2.5 percent as against June 16.

Russia: CPRF's Shabanov, Isakov, Seleznev Comment on Election Results

MM0407162496 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 2

[Report by Anatoliy Stepovoy: "Losers' Camp Has Not Lost Hope"]

[FBIS Translated Text] There is considerable interest in the first reaction, not yet agreed on by the Politburo, to Zyuganov's defeat from the leaders of the CPRF [Communist Party of the Russian Federation] and politicians actively sympathetic toward them. Naturally, we tried to ascertain the opinion of Gennadiy Andreyevich himself. But the CPRF leader spent the whole morning in his Duma office. According to his Press Secretary V. Perfilyev, he will not be in contact with the press until the evening.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Vladimir Isakov, former deputy speaker of the Russian Supreme Soviet, said that Zyuganov's bloc has considerable grounds for making a statement declaring the election illegal. In the first place, Isakov believes that moving voting day from Sunday to midweek violated the constitutional rights of millions of citizens who were abroad and were not given a holiday. Second, the public participation of the executive authorities on the side of one of the candidates — Yeltsin. Third, the lack of evenhandedness in the media.

Isakov gave no guarantees that the losing side would make such a statement, but he did say that as a lawyer he would advise them to do so. He did not deny a possible split in the CPRF ranks. "All will depend on who draws what conclusions."

One of the leaders of Zyuganov's headquarters — Aleksandr Shabanov, secretary of the CPRF Central Committee — would not publicly admit that his bloc had been defeated, saying that "defeat is an unethical word." Unlike Anatoliy Lukyanov, who hinted at the possible involvement of Communists in the creation of a coalition government, A. Shabanov said: "The initiative on the creation of a coalition government must come from the new president. We will not be offering ourselves."

Commenting on the presidential election result to IZVESTIYA correspondent Sergey Chugayev, Gennadiy Seleznev, chairman of the Russian Federation State Duma, made a somewhat surprising statement. "The results of the vote will not only not make my work as speaker more difficult, but they may even maker it easier," the head of the Russian parliament, nominated for the post, as you know, by the Communists, mused. According to Seleznev, the election result showed that most Russians favor reforms, so it is now clear in what direction the Duma should go in its legislative activity and the conditions are right for constructive work.

The State Duma speaker is skeptical about the possibility of his dismissal. "Georgiy Satarov has been dreaming of ousting me for a long time. But I think that nothing will come of it. I am sure that an alliance of three failures, as I would describe the S. Shakhray, B. Fedorov, and I. Rybkin union (the Duma has already come up with the nickname Shafer — Editor), aiming to change the parliamentary leadership, would not get the requisite number of supporters among deputies."

Russia: Electoral Commission Gives Number of Votes Cast

MM0407160496 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA Special Edition in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Boris Yeltsin — First Russian President To Be Reelected! News From the Central Electoral Commission at 1200 Hours 4 July"]

[FBIS Translated Text] There were 38,936,208 votes, representing 53.70 percent, cast for B. Yeltsin.

There were 29,301,089 votes, representing 40.41 percent, cast for G. Zyuganov.

There were 3,524,642 votes, representing 4.86 percent, cast against both.

The number of counted votes as a proportion of all voters taking part in the election was 97 percent.

Russia: Voting Figures for Individual Regions Published

MM0507102796 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA Special Edition in Russian 5 Jul 96 pp 2-3

[Unattributed report: "How the Country Voted"]

[FBIS Translated Text]

[all figures are percentages]

Region	Yeltsin		Zyuganov		None of the above	
	Second	First	Second	First	Second	First
Center						
Moscow	77.29	61.73	17.92	14.97	4.13	1.46
Moscow Oblast	64.20	44.69	29.89	24.42	5.08	1.76
Vladimir Oblast	51.56	31.38	41.86	30.34	5.64	1.65
Ivanovo Oblast	53.16	29.99	39.10	23.53	6.91	1.65

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Region	Yeltsin		Zyuganov		None of the above	
	Second	First	Second	First	Second	First
Ryazan Oblast	42.57	24.99	51.62	40.53	4.92	1.64
Tula Oblast	52.42	30.43	41.13	30.70	5.37	1.53
Smolensk Oblast	38.15	22.25	56.25	45.11	4.78	1.44
Kaluga Oblast	48.59	31.87	45.58	35.91	4.98	1.54
Bryansk Oblast	36.29	26.56	59.23	50.43	3.44	1.29
Orel Oblast	32.05	21.73	63.28	54.94	3.83	1.59
Kursk Oblast	36.53	24.50	58.62	52.06	3.51	1.33
Voronezh Oblast	36.97	22.92	57.64	46.03	4.58	1.43
Lipetsk Oblast	38.62	25.49	56.30	47.11	4.05	1.53
Tambov Oblast	32.57	21.21	62.85	53.01	3.70	1.38
Belgorod Oblast	36.61	23.16	58.20	46.94	4.13	1.27
Far East						
Chita Oblast	40.91	24.99	52.48	39.76	5.33	2.14
Aginskiy Buryat Autonomous Okrug	49.16	45.72	47.23	36.52	2.04	1.29
Amur Oblast	40.68	26.94	53.05	42.39	5.45	2.17
Khabarovsk Kray	58.98	39.45	33.72	23.10	6.54	2.22
Jewish Autonomous Oblast	49.43	30.78	43.68	33.30	5.76	2.47
Maritime Kray	52.26	29.92	39.41	24.87	7.40	2.29
Sakhalin Oblast	53.27	30.21	39.01	27.42	6.75	2.10
Kamchatka Oblast	61.80	34.70	29.50	19.12	7.96	2.15
Koryak Autonomous Okrug	69.78	46.70	22.90	15.28	6.16	2.92
Volga Region						
Nizhniy Novgorod Oblast	51.74	35.37	42.35	33.04	4.88	1.75
Mordovia	45.78	24.97	47.66	51.40	2.56	0.94
Mariy El	40.74	24.79	52.78	44.22	5.18	1.97
Chuvashia	31.82	21.34	62.59	56.01	3.34	1.14
Tatarstan	63.97	38.40	30.01	38.10	3.35	1.78
Ulyanovsk Oblast	37.83	24.15	56.28	46.54	4.64	1.49
Samara Oblast	51.95	36.56	42.69	35.59	4.51	1.63
Penza Oblast	35.50	21.12	58.95	51.35	4.59	1.45

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Region	Yeltsin		Zyuganov		None of the above	
	Second	First	Second	First	Second	First
Saratov Oblast	44.04	28.76	49.98	42.14	4.86	1.69
Volgograd Oblast	44.21	28.89	50.48	40.46	4.55	1.39
Astrakhan Oblast	46.85	29.80	47.79	37.33	4.42	1.41
The North						
St. Petersburg	73.86	49.81	21.09	15	4.73	1.12
Leningrad Oblast	61.35	37.87	32.30	23.42	5.69	1.71
Kaliningrad Oblast	57.69	33.84	35.34	23.34	6.14	1.46
Pskov Oblast	45.23	25.04	48.08	30.67	5.87	1.45
Novgorod Oblast	59.14	36.09	33.99	23.98	6.15	1.71
Tver Oblast	50.16	32.45	43.65	33.94	5.49	1.77
Vologda Oblast	63.97	45.65	28.49	18.85	6.82	2.20
Yaroslavl Oblast	60.53	32.90	31.51	18.20	7.18	1.60
Kostroma Oblast	49.86	28.39	42.70	28.91	6.64	1.60
Kirov Oblast	50.70	31.65	41.57	29.34	6.78	2.04
Karelia	66.21	43.05	26.39	17.25	6.60	1.97
Murmansk Oblast	70.13	41	21.88	12.21	7.36	2.01
Arkhangelsk Oblast	64.37	41.68	27.26	18.01	7.49	2.00
Nenetsk Autonomous Okrug	61.54	43.37	28.89	18.66	8.39	3.53
Komi	64.23	41.18	28.16	16.60	6.60	1.87
Yamalo-Nenetsk Autonomous Okrug	79.28	56.02	15.18	9.31	4.73	1.45
Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug	74.24	53.17	20.20	12.98	4.57	1.38
Taymyr Autonomous Okrug	71.62	50.25	21.57	12.27	6.06	2.06
Evenki Autonomous Okrug	65.97	44.07	28.20	20.30	5.00	1.88
Yakutia (Sakha)	64.62	52.92	29.87	21.03	4.11	1.67
Magadan Oblast	63.57	37.26	27.54	16.18	8.22	2.45
Chukotka Autonomous Okrug	74.29	48.96	19.14	13.63	6.03	2.64

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Region	Yeltsin		Zyuganov		None of the above	
	Second	First	Second	First	Second	First
The South						
Rostov Oblast	52.36	29.33	42.52	35.02	4.26	1.07
Krasnodar Kray	44.89	26.57	50.44	39.88	3.85	1.22
Adygea	34.69	20.27	60.89	52.14	3.45	1.06
Karachayevo-Cherkessia	46.65	26.36	48.75	56.58	3.02	0.77
Balkaria	63.31	44.83	33.45	38.17	1.96	0.77
Stavropol Kray	40.70	22.26	54.18	44.45	4.19	1.21
Kalmykia	69.35	59.85	27.66	26.14	2.13	0.92
North Ossetia	43.41	19.53	52.48	63.15	2.35	1.12
Ingushetia	62.20	45.67	32.25	25.47	3.90	2.26
Chechen Republic	68.20	68.00	27.20	17.00	4.00	2.00
Dagestan	51.20	26.40	45.67	66.47	1.13	0.71
The Urals						
Udmurtia	52.83	37.38	40.73	30.95	5.42	2.03
Perm Oblast	70.85	56.10	23.57	16.36	4.56	1.80
Komi-Permyak Autonomous Okrug	62.78	54.33	32.58	24.17	3.39	2.11
Sverdlovsk Oblast	77.02	60.07	17.81	11.78	4.37	1.40
Chelyabinsk Oblast	58.50	37.21	34.98	25.14	5.30	1.39
Bashkortostan	50.65	34.59	43.50	42.59	3.65	1.44
Orenburg Oblast	40.81	26.39	53.94	42.81	4.20	1.27
Kurgan Oblast	43.41	29.66	50.22	38.05	5.41	2.11
Siberia						
Tyumen Oblast	55.82	39.65	38.16	27.72	4.96	1.79
Omsk Oblast	46.23	33.45	47.51	37.47	5.14	2.10
Novosibirsk Oblast	43.74	25.99	48.90	35.48	6.28	1.73
Tomsk Oblast	59.24	35.52	33.63	22.49	6.04	1.63
Kemerovo Oblast	41.59	23.36	51.49	39.46	5.87	1.66
Altay Kray	38.56	22.10	55.52	42.53	4.96	1.36
Gornyy Altay	42.65	29.16	52.05	43.24	3.77	1.67
Krasnoyarsk Kray	53.48	35.25	39.98	28.89	5.64	1.78
Khakassia	47.18	29.69	47.15	36.01	4.79	1.67

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Region	Yeltsin		Zyuganov		None of the above	
	Second	First	Second	First	Second	First
Tuva	62.72	62.53	32.48	22.09	2.18	1.05
Irkutsk Oblast	53.48	32.85	38.93	27.93	6.32	1.70
Ust-Orda Buryat Autonomous Okrug	48.67	37.79	47.00	40.87	2.70	1.40
Buryatia	46.79	31.26	47.93	40.71	3.85	1.45

Russia: Yeltsin Wins Majority of Russians' Votes in Ukraine

LD0407114396 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 0830 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Simferopol (UNIAN) — A total of 2,099 people turned out to vote in the presidential election in Simferopol on 3 July, compared with 1,238 in the first round. There were 2,630 people on the list of voters. According to a UNIAN correspondent, 1,420 people voted for Boris Yeltsin, 627 voted for Gennadiy Zyuganov, and 46 voted against both candidates.

A total of 2,501 people voted in Yalta, compared with 1,302 in the first round.

In Feodosiya, 2,912 turned up to vote, compared with 1,807 in the first round.

Sevastopol — UNIAN learned from the headquarters of the Black Sea Fleet that at 14 closed polling stations, where only servicemen and members of their families were allowed to vote, 69 percent voted for Yeltsin and 24 percent for Zyuganov. At two open polling stations in Sevastopol, — open to both servicemen and members of their families, as well as other citizens of the Russian Federation — Yeltsin won 60 percent and Zyuganov 32 percent of votes. At closed and open polling stations, 7 percent voted against both candidates. In total, 31,917 people voted in the second round at 16 polling stations that had been set up for the Black Sea Fleet.

Kiev — UNIAN learned from the Russian Embassy in the Ukrainian capital that 1,978 Russian citizens voted in the second round. In total, 1,503 people voted for Yeltsin and 429 voted for Zyuganov.

Lvov — According to the Consulate-General of the Russian Federation in Lvov, 267 people voted in the second round on 3 July. Of those, 198 voted for Yeltsin, 58 voted for Zyuganov, seven voted against both candidates, and four ballot papers were spoilt. Members of the consulate said that there had been a higher turnout than in the first round because more Russian citizens were now on holiday in resorts of Lvov Region.

Russia: Most Russian Citizens in Moldova Vote for Zyuganov

LD0407100496 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0834 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] CHISINAU, 4 Jul (INTERFAX) — Most Russian citizens living in Moldova voted for Communist leader Gennadiy Zyuganov in the runoff presidential elections. According to Yevgeniy Lyafustin, press secretary of the Russian embassy in Moldova, 50.84 percent cast their ballots for Zyuganov, 44.63 percent for Boris Yeltsin and 3.98 percent against both.

Nevertheless, he said, Yeltsin took a big step forward compared to the first round of voting thanks to supporters of General Alexander Lebed. In the first round at two polling stations in Chisinau and Tiraspol, 45 percent voted for Lebed, 36 for Zyuganov and only 11 for Yeltsin.

Russia: Yeltsin Wins 68.6 Percent of Kazakh Expatriate Vote

LD0407054796 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0542 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] ALMATY, July 4 (Interfax) — As many as 68.6 percent of the Russian nationals in Kazakhstan cast their ballots in favor of Boris Yeltsin, counselor of the Russian Embassy in Almaty and chairman of the local electoral commission Mikhail Yuferev told Interfax.

As many as 2277 of the 3319 Russians who came to the polling stations supported Yeltsin's bid for presidency, 903 voted in favor of Gennadiy Zyuganov and 128 rejected both candidacies.

The Russian Embassy in Kazakhstan opened five polling stations to enable Kazakhstan's Russian community and visiting Russians to cast ballots in the presidential elections.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The returns are on the whole reflective of the mood of the Russian voters taken as a whole, Yuferev said.

Both Yeltsin and Zyuganov action committees posted observers at the five polling stations but neither ballot-rigging attempts nor voter's complaints have been reported.

Russia: Yeltsin Wins Expatriate Vote in Tajikistan

LD0407055996 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0547 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] DUSHANBE, July 4 (Interfax) — The sympathies of Russians temporarily or permanently residing in Tajikistan remained on the side of Boris Yeltsin in the runoff elections. The head of the electoral commission at the Russian embassy in Tajikistan Gennadiy Sizov told Interfax Thursday, 56.69 percent of the voters who took part in the elections cast their ballots for him. 33.01 percent voted for Gennady Zyuganov and 9.31 percent against both.

In the border force the figures were 57.6 percent, 29.87 percent and 11.37 percent.

In the 201st infantry division which is in Tajikistan as part of the collective peacekeeping force 59.45 percent of ballots were cast for Yeltsin, 29.93 percent for Zyuganov and 9.62 percent against both.

Russia: 49.5 Percent of Russians in Turkmenistan Favor Zyuganov

LD0307225696 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1952 GMT 3 Jul 96

[By Oleg Lukin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] ASHGABAT July 3 (Itar-Tass) — Nearly 4 thousand Russians who voted in Russian presidential elections in the Central Asian republic of Turkmenistan on Wednesday gave a narrow lead to communist candidate Gennadiy Zyuganov, according to an embassy spokesman.

A total of 3,998 voters came to the polls and 49.5 per cent of them backed Zyuganov, while President Boris Yeltsin trailed with 47.5 per cent. 2.3 per cent of ballots were cast against both candidates.

The spokesman said the turnout was lower than during the first round on June 16 when 5,600 people came to the polls. He explained it by the heat which is characteristic of Turkmenistan in this time of the year when the temperature is 44 degrees Centigrade.

Russia: Yeltsin Wins Support of Voters in Uzbekistan

LD0407001896 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2358 GMT 3 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] TASHKENT, July 4 (Interfax) — Early results of the vote in the Russian presidential runoff in Uzbekistan indicate that incumbent Russian President Boris Yeltsin received 68.2 percent of the votes cast in this former Soviet republic.

Communist Party of Russia leader Gennadiy Zyuganov mustered 28.7 percent of the votes cast in Uzbekistan.

The remaining voters voted against both presidential candidates.

A total of 2,136 voters came to the polls for the second round of the Russian presidential elections in Uzbekistan against 2,030 voters in the June 16 first round of the Russian presidential elections here.

Seven ballot papers were recognized as spoiled.

Russia: 53.5 Percent of Russians in Azerbaijan Vote for Yeltsin

LD0407170796 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0820 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Baku [no date as received] (Itar-Tass) — Fifty-three point five percent of the Russian citizens working in Azerbaijan voted for incumbent President Boris Yeltsin and 39.9 percent voted for Gennadiy Zyuganov. Altogether 1,444 people took part in the voting, 13 voted against both candidates, and four bulletins were deemed invalid. [passage omitted]

Russia: 77.1 Percent of Russians in Estonia Vote for Zyuganov

LD0307220696 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2145 GMT 3 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] TALLINN, July 4 (Interfax) — In Estonia, 77.1 percent of Russian citizens who took part in the second round of the presidential election voted for Communist Party leader Gennadiy Zyuganov, and 20.45 percent for Boris Yeltsin.

The Russian embassy in Estonia said that 21,649 people of the approximately 80,000 voters participated in the election.

In the first round on June 16 Zyuganov got 62.74 percent of the votes of Russians in Estonia; Lebed, 15.02 percent, and Yeltsin, 11.38 percent.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Russia: Most Russian Citizens in Lithuania Vote for Zyuganov

LD0407100596 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0805 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] VILNIUS, 4 Jul (INTERFAX) — According to preliminary results received by INTERFAX at the Russian embassy in Vilnius, most participants in the Russian presidential elections in Lithuania gave preference to communist leader Gennadiy Zyuganov.

Some 4,500 out of 16,000 Russian citizens living in Lithuania took part in the voting. About 2,900 voted for Zyuganov and about 1,600 for Yeltsin.

Russia: Yeltsin Wins 'Landslide Victory' in St. Petersburg

LD0307232796 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2322 GMT 3 Jul 96

[By Natalya Cherepanova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] ST. PETERSBURG July 4 (Itar-Tass) — President Boris Yeltsin won a landslide victory in the second biggest Russian city of St. Petersburg, according to early returns.

Yeltsin got 73.84 per cent of votes, while Zyuganov trailed with only 21.1 per cent after data from all polling stations have been received, the local election commission said adding that the computer data will yet be verified by manual counting.

4.74 per cent of ballots were cast against both candidates.

The turnout in St. Petersburg was 64.25 per cent compared to 62.21 per cent in the first round on June 16.

Russia: Zyuganov Casts Vote, Says Observers To Count Votes 'Honestly'

LD0307163696 Moscow NTV in Russian 1500 GMT 3 Jul 96

[From the "Segodnya" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Boris Yeltsin's rival arrived at his polling station, the former Pioneer Palace on Miusskaya Square, in splendid form. [passage omitted]

The communist leader felt a bit easier for having left some of his colleagues at every polling station. He is counting upon the will of the people for the rest:

[Begin Zyuganov recording] Everything should be strictly according to the law, in keeping with the protocols. We have our observers at every polling station—I just checked that today again, and yesterday, too. So we will count up honestly. We will carry out strictly the people's vote. [end recording] [video shows Zyuganov voting, talking to media]

Russia: Zyuganov Condemns Statements on Preparations for Civil War

LD0307162496 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1603 GMT 3 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 3 (Interfax) — The campaign headquarters of Russian Communist Party leader and presidential candidate Gennadiy Zyuganov has condemned statements that the Communists are preparing Russia for a civil war.

Such accusations were levelled in a press release issued by the press center of the All-Russia Movement of Public Support for Boris Yeltsin today and sent to news agencies, reads a statement sent by the headquarters to Interfax on Wednesday.

"Many of the widespread anti-Communist propagandist cliches are repeated," reads the statement.

According to the document, the action is aimed at undermining "the calm and businesslike" process of the second round of the presidential elections, destabilizing the situation in Russia and "creating moral 'grounds' for illegal actions upon the results of the elections.

"We resolutely condemn these provocative actions. We ask the voters, all Russians to preserve their self-possession and good will," reads the statement.

It also calls on Russians to "fulfil their moral and civil duty by taking part in the elections for the sake of a better — honest and dignified — future for Russia."

Russia: Zyuganov Refuses To Admit Defeat Before 'Real Results' Known

LD0407070796 Moscow 2x2 Television in Russian 0600 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Gennadiy Zyuganov, who has not appeared in public for almost 24 hours and whom reporters awaited at his home this morning, refused to comment on the preliminary election results or to admit his defeat before obtaining the full data.

[Begin recording] [Zyuganov] I want to look into the results — the ones that are real. I've just had a look. There was a report from Dagestan. We had 60 percent of the votes there, but they say we've now lost. We need to sort out how that could have happened in ten days.

[Reporter] What is your view...?

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Zyuganov, interrupting] I'll give the rest of my comments once the real results are in.

[Reporter] Gennadiy Andreyevich... [ends in mid-sentence as heard; end recording]

Russia: Zyuganov Holds News Conference, Congratulates Yeltsin

LD0407154596 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1453 GMT 4 Jul 96

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 4 Jul (Itar-Tass) — Gennadiy Zyuganov, leader of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation [CPRF], who lost the presidential elections to Boris Yeltsin, stated today that he "respects the will of the citizens of the Russian Federation." Addressing a news conference held in the State Duma this evening he said he has sent a message of congratulations to Boris Yeltsin.

At the same time the candidate of the popular and patriotic forces accused the organizers of the current president's election campaign of an "unheard of mobilization of the resources and potential of the state." G. Zyuganov said the 40 percent of the votes cast for his bloc confirm its "high significance in society."

"Over a period of three years, an infinitesmally small period when measured against the yardstick of history, we moved from being almost semi-legal repressed organizations to becoming a Russia-wide political movement," he noted.

G. Zyuganov said the bloc is ready to examine a possibility of its representatives taking part in the new government, if it is formed "on the basis of principles of professionalism and honesty."

Russia: Zyuganov Hints at Forming 'Shadow Cabinet'

LD0407175396 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1628 GMT 4 Jul 96

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 4 Jul (Itar-Tass) — Gennadiy Zyuganov today said he did not think the results of the elections were his loss. Speaking today at his first post-electoral press conference he said: "Given the conditions, we have achieved good results." "Next time we shall get 45 million votes," he added.

The communist leader said he was ready to accept the results of the elections. "I must respect people's rights, I must respect the rules which exist in a civilized society," he said denying that the communists would call on their supporters to begin unrest.

Zyuganov said that an expanded meeting of the council of the popular and patriotic bloc would meet on Saturday [6 July] to discuss the results of the elections and to form a mass popular and patriotic movement with its platform and charter. The leader of the bloc spoke of his plans to form what he described as a "coalition government which will put forward its own proposals and be in opposition to the existing course." This sounds as if he were talking about a "shadow cabinet."

The communist leader said he did not receive any official proposals from Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin inviting communists to the coalition cabinet. If such proposals are put forward they will be examined proceeding from the government's program and policy.

Zyuganov said that the Communist Party of the Russian Federation and the Popular-Patriotic Bloc would back any measures "which will aim to revive Russia." He said that the main principles in the work of the bloc would be the "principles of law and justice."

Russia: Reasons for Zyuganov's Defeat Examined

MM0407193096 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 1

[Article by Vladimir Solovyev: "...We Have One Russia"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Thus, what was to have been expected, judging by the development of events between the two rounds of voting, has come to pass — Boris Yeltsin remains Russian Federation president for another four years.

The decisive choice that the country was waiting for has been made. There is no doubt that it will be studied, analyzed, and commented on by the press, specialists, and politicians for a long time to come. After all, someone rightly noted that a politician's true talent is to be able to accurately predict the course of events and subsequently to equally authoritatively explain why everything turned out differently.

I do not want to resemble that kind of politician, but nonetheless I consider it important to explain the idea I voiced in the first line — why this was to have been expected.

It was not at all a matter of the relative majority which B. Yeltsin obtained in the first round. It would be naive to assume that since he won the first round, he would win the second. The campaign tactics of the contenders' two teams gave grounds for a pessimistic forecast as regards the opposition.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Let us state frankly that B. Yeltsin had a more privileged position by dint of the office he currently holds. He had the opportunity not only to make election speeches but to control the budget, to order that wage arrears be paid out the regions, to present a car to a voter, and so forth. He had the huge propaganda machine of the state media — primarily the electronic media, radio and television — on his side. The recruitment of A. Lebed and the whole raft of abrupt personnel changes on the eve of the second round were a clever tactical step.

What could G. Zyuganov's team, which did not have such extensive opportunities for maneuver, do to counter this? Being realistic — only to carry out a careful campaign taking account of the public mentality. But that, in my subjective view, was not sufficient for the opposition team. I am not afraid to say that it seemed to flag during the preparations for the second round and clearly went on the defensive. G. Zyuganov himself mainly focused on his daily news conferences, and his initiatives (such as, for instance, the proposal to create a coalition government) were largely of an apparatus nature, since they were aimed more at professional politicians than at ordinary voters.

It seems as though the analysts in G. Zyuganov's campaign forgot one simple thing — it is not enough to be confident you are right. You need to convince a majority of voters. But that takes painstaking work — primarily with those who shape public opinion. Namely, the press. And that was a weak point for G. Zyuganov's team. Yet speeches from impassioned opposition rostrums, vivid pictures, and clear answers to all their rivals' attacks were not enough for voters. Underestimating all this is liable to result in political defeat.

I think, when talking about the reasons, it would be fair to mention the very dubious role played in the opposition team by V. Anpilov's grouping. Their call to vote both against Yeltsin and against the "social democrat" G. Zyuganov was essentially a knife in the bloc's back and caused confusion among some voters.

There is one other very important aspect — the fact that the opposition underestimated certain social and psychological stereotypes. After all, it is obvious that — for the overwhelming majority of the population — reliability, stability, and confidence that the future will at least be if not better then no worse than the present is of particular importance. Analysts on the presidential team actively utilized this stereotype, simultaneously rebuking their opponents for trying quite simply to bring back all that was worst about the past — the distributive system, the omnipotence of party committees, empty shelves, and so forth.

Those who read the opposition's program documents knew that this was all absurd. Essentially what was proposed were improvements to the market mechanism with a sharp emphasis on social protection for the population. But the whole problem was that most voters did not even see those documents!

The rivals' understandable desire to publish their programs as late as possible so as not to give one another ideas resulted in a desperate race against the clock. There was no time to explain all the details to everyone and anyway the opposition's information base for such work is incomparably smaller. As a result many people went to the polling stations without a clear knowledge of the programs and guided only by superficial ideas and personal opinions about them. And this means that people were partly influenced by a fear of the future — a fear, not properly dispelled by anyone but actively instilled, of a future in which everything comes from the past.

Nevertheless, despite the preliminary voting figures, which are not comforting for the opposition, the situation does not seem hopeless to me.

First, the election showed that almost one-half of the population is critical of the present authorities and it can no longer be ignored in current policy. If B. Yeltsin's team really cherishes Russia's fate it will reinforce the social aspects of its work.

Second, the most fitting response to all the verbiage about the threat of the civil war that the Communists would allegedly bring with them is the quite calm and proper conduct of the current election.

And third, I believe that the opposition will also draw the necessary conclusions from the election results. Election defeat is not a tragedy if we are thinking about the future of the country and want to make it prosperous for all.

It is necessary to learn to listen to one another and seek compromise. After all, we have only one land — Russia. And we are all its children.

Russia: Lebed Welcomes Election Result, Refuses To Discuss Future

LD0407100396 Moscow 2x2 Television in Russian 0600 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Aleksandr Lebed, secretary of the Security Council and the president's national security aide, gave a brief interview to foreign journalists at his home this morning. In it he gave his provisional assessment of the election results and answered other questions.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Begin recording] [Lebed] Everyone has made the right choice. Russia has chosen the right trajectory. It amounts to a huge, really huge promissory note of hope and trust. It must now be justified.

[Correspondent] Are you satisfied with your present post?

[Lebed] I have never been satisfied with my present post, with any post that I have ever occupied.

[Correspondent] What ideas and aims do you have for the future?

[Lebed] That's my business. When I bring my ideas and aims to fruition, we'll see. [end recording]

Russia: Yavlinskiy Not To Join Government Unless Chechen War Ended

LD0407125396 Moscow 2x2 Television in Russian 1200 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Yabloko leader Grigoriy Yavlinskiy assessed the election results as a chance for the president and his new team to overcome the political split gripping society by moving from preelection promises to immediate action to change the course of reform. In Yavlinskiy's opinion, the main values for Russian society are a liberal economic policy and the defense of human rights.

Assessing the possibilities of creating a coalition government, the Yabloko leader noted that in itself it is not a problem to construct a government. What is important is to establish the tasks that it intends to resolve. Yavlinskiy said in particular that he personally does not intend to work in the government if it intends to continue the war in Chechnya. At the same time Grigoriy Yavlinskiy said that he is ready to take an active part in a political settlement of the Chechen conflict. [video shows Yavlinskiy at news conference]

Russia: Cabinet To Resign After Election in Line With Constitution

LD0407090996 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0828 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, 4 Jul (INTERFAX) — In keeping with the constitution, the Russian cabinet is to resign after the election of the new president.

According to the cabinet legal department, the prime minister will submit a letter of resignation on behalf of the government after the Central Electoral Commission announces the official results of the Wednesday runoff elections. The new president will decide what will happen to individual cabinet members.

Due to deficiencies in acting legislation, the legal department could not specify when the president is to accept the resignation of the government and officially name his candidate to the post of prime minister, who under the constitution is approved by the Duma. The president is to approve the cabinet members suggested by the prime minister.

Before the runoff President Boris Yeltsin told INTERFAX he had instructed Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin to submit his suggestions concerning the structure and members of the new government two weeks after the elections. He voiced the hope that the leader of Yabloko movement Grigoriy Yavlinskiy would "join the effort."

Russia: Zavgayev Calls 3 Jul Election 'Referendum' on Chechnya

LD0407151996 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1312 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNYY, July 4 (Interfax) — Moscow-backed Chechen leader Doku Zavgayev regards the vote in the presidential elections in Chechnya as a nationwide referendum on the future of Chechnya as integral part of Russia.

Two-thirds of the republic's citizens confirmed their support for Yeltsin's course for a peaceful solution of the Chechen crisis by their participation in the elections, Zavgayev told Interfax in the Chechen capital of Groznyy on Thursday.

More than 70 percent of votes given in Yeltsin's support testify to the fact that "people trust in a quick stabilization of the situation in Chechnya, they have shown confidence in the authorities, in their desire to restore normal life to the republic," he said.

He highly estimated the role of the federal delegation to the negotiations with the Chechen separatists headed by Russian Nationalities Minister Vyacheslav Mikhaylov. "They have determined the successful outcome of the second round of election campaign in Chechnya by their firm and successive position at the talks, by the adherence to the agreements achieved with representatives of the Chechen armed opposition."

Zavgayev recalled that certain forces in the camp of the armed opposition attempted to disrupt the current round of talks and to aggravate the situation in the republic on the eve of the elections. "But to the honor of the federal party, it has not yielded to provocations," he said.

He said that all members of the republic's leadership and the leaders of the federal delegation and federal forces command visited the most complicated regions

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

in Chechnya's south and guaranteed the security of the population during the elections by their words and deeds.

Russia: Elections 'Surprisingly Calm' in Chechnya; Turnout High

LD0307195196 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1931 GMT 3 Jul 96

[By Igor Zhukov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 3 (Itar-Tass) — Against expectations of the federal centre, the second round of Russia's presidential poll has brought no incidents in Chechnya, a top Kremlin official told Tass on Wednesday.

Opposition leaders were "surprisingly calm" over the runoff and the turnout was high, Emil Pain, a member of Boris Yeltsin's Presidential Council, told the press at the premises of the Russian Movement for Boris Yeltsin's Support.

Chechnya's turnout had been 64 percent by 18:00 Moscow time (14:00 GMT), Tass learnt in Groznyy. However, some mountainous regions had not reported the results by that time, the republic's electoral commission chairman Abdul-Kerim Arsakhanov said.

Chechnya's official leader Doku Zavgayev told Tass that the voting had been practically finished in the republic and the turnout had been high even in the Gudermes, Shelkovskiy and Naurskiy districts whose voters had largely ignored the June 16 poll.

Russia: Electoral Commissions Said To Have Spent R700 Billion

MM0407163796 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA Special Edition in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 4

[Report by Andrey Petrov: "Where Did Ryabov Spend the Night?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] His wife is sure he spent it at the federal information center. Nikolay Ryabov was spotted early in the morning at the polling place at 4 Kosygin Street. When they voted, leaders of the Central Electoral Commission unanimously declared that no ballyhoo about vote rigging could be taken seriously, because the election had been conducted strictly in accordance with the law.

By early July Russian Federation electoral commissions had spent around 700 billion rubles [R] on organizing and conducting the presidential election, Nikolay Ryabov, chairman of the Central Electoral Commission, announced. According to him, this is just straight state budget expenditure and it does not include money spent by the candidates and their headquarters and public associations on the election campaign.

According to ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA experts, that sum is two-thirds of what this year's budget allocates for housing construction in the countryside.

Russia: Bomb Scare Interrupts Voting at 2 Polling Stations in Perm

LD0307192196 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1909 GMT 3 Jul 96

[By Leonid Bagdatyev]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PERM, July 3 (Itar-Tass) — A bomb scare interrupted the voting at two polling stations in the city of Perm, the Urals, for half an hour but mine-clearing engineers who arrived at the site found no explosive devices planted in the secondary school which hosted the stations.

The turnout in the Perm region was over 60 percent by 22.00 hours local time when the polling stations were closed.

Russia: Two Dead Bodies Found at Polling Station in Far East

LD0207122596 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0953 GMT 2 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] KHABAROVSK, July 2 (Interfax-Eurasia) — Two dead bodies with shot wounds were discovered Tuesday at a polling station in Sogda, Khabarovsk territory in the Far East, Interfax-Eurasia was told by the local administration. One of the victims was identified as the policeman who guarded the station.

An officer on duty at the Khabarovsk Territorial Interior Department did not confirm the report but said a group of law enforcement officers has been helicoptered to Sogda.

The head of the local administration Petr Titkov has also reportedly flown to the town.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

CIS: ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 5 Jul

LD0507071296 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0606 GMT 5 Jul 96

["Press Review" — ITAR-TASS headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 5 (Itar-Tass) — Follows a review of Friday's Moscow-based Russian newspapers dated July 5. ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA on Russia's choosing the democratic road.

"Russia can be proud: it has chosen the democratic way of development by voting for civic accord in society," the newspaper's Editor-in-Chief Anatoliy Yurkov points out.

The newspaper recalls, however, that there were very many Russians who voted against President Boris Yeltsin in the belief that no reforms are worth sacrificing people's wellbeing to them.

"These contradictions are the line which so far divides Russia into two camps. If Boris Yetsn succeeds in ploughing this divide, Russia would become twice as strong".

The newspaper also runs a detailed account in figures of the polling process in the regions during the presidential election runoff.

ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI runs the findings for an impromptu opinion poll among Muscovites as to whether they agree that society has been divided into the Reds and Whites.

The newspaper concludes: such a division is artificial. At present, people do not stand on the diffirent sides of barricades. But 40 million people in Russia, who voted against the present policy course, sent, in a sense, "a signal to the President that without social support of the State they are unable to cope with their problems". ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI comment on the election results.

The main conclusion drawn by the newspaper's Editor-in-Cchief Valeriy Kucher is that "the Communist Party of the Russian Federal does not exist as a party", for today it is brought together by people's discontent over the current state of things, not by an idea, degree of organisation or the personallity of leader. This is why the President is now facing a new and no easy task, which comes to the fore: to steer State policy to meeting the interests of the majority of people.

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA runs somewhat abridged remarks, made by Aleksandr Lebed, Secretary of Russia's Security Council, on "basic orientations of the Council's activities in the present period" at the press centre of the Administraiton of the Russian President on July 2.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA carries a detailed account of Aleksandr Lebed's briefing, giving main attention to the Council chief's proposals concerning the Army.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA frontpages a report that Motorised Rifle Regiment 245 has returned to its permanent station from Chechnya.

"The attitude to servicemen who discharged their military duty in Chechnya is a touchedstone to test the true worth of leader at any level: whether he really takes care of people," Nizhny Novgorod Governor Boris Nemtsov told the newspaper.

At a meeting marking the return of the Regiment, Nemtsov handed over documents to the Regiment Commander for two new apartments for officers.

The newspaper also carries an interview with Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov in connection with his 75th birthday.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA discusses matters concerning present-day political life that are uppermost in people's minds.

The newspaper's correspondents seek to find answers as to why Yeltsin did not his cast vote at Krylatskoye, who will succeed Pavel Grachev, and when the Viktor Chernomyrdin government will resign.

TRUD on the magnitude of post-election tasks facing the President and his team.

These problems are discussed in the newspaper by Pavel Bunich, Chairman of the State Duma Committee on Property, Privatisation, and Economic Activities.

Social promises have been made and a mountain of new expenditure lies ahead. The financial strain is extremely high but since Russia has for the first time taken the Social-Democratic path, there is no way back. The writer of the article enumerates possible sources to replenish funds so that the State could proceed with its nascent new policy.

Baltics: Yeltsin Claims Ethnic Russian Rights in Baltics Infringed

LD0207133696 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1312 GMT 2 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 2 (Interfax) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin has raised the issue of Russian language speakers in the Baltic countries with U.S. President Bill Clinton, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Mikhail Demurin told a briefing in Moscow on Tuesday.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

According to him, the Russian side drew Washington's attention to the plight of Russian speakers in Latvia and particularly in Estonia.

"Hundreds of thousands of fellow countrymen in Estonia and Latvia have been deprived and are being deprived of citizenship," he quoted the document as saying. "Their position is rather difficult, there is still a big gap in the political, social, economic and cultural rights of citizens and non-citizens."

"All these are flagrant mass violations of human rights," says the document.

According to Demurin, the document also says that both Tallinn and Riga ignore the recommendations of independent international experts about the need to change the domestic legislation, "and react to the direct and indirect support on the part of some states as if they agree with their course to infringe upon their the rights and freedoms of the Russian-speaking population."

He also said that in the document Yeltsin firmly spoke out against attempts to expand NATO. "The prospect of the Baltic states membership in NATO is absolutely unacceptable and any steps in this direction would be considered as a challenge to the interests of Russia's national security, as undermining of the European stability and cooperation," says the document.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Russia: Western Concern for Media Freedom Cited

MM0507103996 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 2

[Unattributed roundup: "We Should Not Be Talking About a Triumph for Democracy. The Second Round of the Russian Presidential Election as Mirrored by the Western Media"]

[FBIS Translated Text] An old aphorism has been revived of late: "There is a custom in Russia: listening to the BBC at night." Particularly the night after an election. As U.S. political scientist Professor Marshall Goldman stated, freedom of the press in Russia is dead, and the presidential election — both the first and to an even greater degree the second round — demonstrated this most clearly. So Russians wanting to obtain at least a crumb of objective information on the night of 3-4 July had not to listen to Radio Rossii and not to Svanidze and Kiselev on "Zerkalo" and "Itogi," but tune their sets to the frequencies of the BBC, DEUTSCHE WELLE, and other Western radio stations. Of course, they must not forget for a moment that their observers and reporters are by no means impartial people and that their sympathies lie at any rate not with the people's patriotic bloc candidate. But, being professionals, they do, as a rule, air the other viewpoint as well, and the way that very many Russian journalists unfortunately act as the authorities' stooges grates on their Western colleagues, so they consider it their duty to distance themselves from this groveling "glasnost." For instance, a DEUTSCHE WELLE observer again, as he did after the first round of the presidential election in Russia, expressed the hope that the leash would nonetheless be removed from the electronic media and the democratic press, because things had become positively indecent: The so-called "fourth estate" had become an "organ for pro-Yeltsin propaganda." One Moscow voter, who was particularly angry at the disparagement of the older generation, told a BBC correspondent of the disgraceful election propaganda terror. Incidentally, on election eve, when all election propaganda is prohibited by law, there was a wave of utterly scurrilous movies and programs on all Russian television channels, particularly ORT, fueling social antagonism and opposition to "Whites" and "Reds."

The presidential election in Russia is yet to be comprehensively analyzed, but one definite conclusion can already be drawn. The influential German paper DIE WELT put it as follows: "Irrespective of the outcome of the presidential election in Russia, we should not be talking about a triumph for democracy and reform." The paper is also very pessimistic about the prospects of achieving stability in Russian society following the Yeltsin victory: "A sick man will remain Kremlin incumbent, and behind his back new Rasputins will be scrabbling for power."

According to another German paper, OFFENBACH-POST, "The outline of an authoritarian regime is already emerging in Russia, with Lebed, not Yeltsin, at the center of it: With his jackboots the retired warrior will trample the tender shoots of democracy in the gigantic empire." A review of the German press provided by DEUTSCHE WELLE contained some other colorful comparisons and assessments: The paper FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE described Lebed as "the first Bonaparte in Russia's recent history." THUERINGER ALLGEMEINE questioned Yeltsin's state of health and his reported irritation with Lebed's reply to DER SPIEGEL's question as to whether the general would be Russian president in 2000.

"Perhaps sooner," was Lebed's laconic reply, which he now, apparently, regrets, claiming that the German magazine's correspondent had "misunderstood." THUERINGER ALLGEMEINE believes that maybe "a baby cuckoo is even now developing in the Kremlin nest" and "although the swan ["lebed" is Russian for swan] is a harmless bird, you cannot same the same of the general, whose power has increased."

The U.S. WASHINGTON POST newspaper goes along with this view. It believes that President Yeltsin's election maneuver in making General Lebed the second most powerful person in the state could play a nasty trick on the president. Another U.S. paper, THE WASHINGTON TIMES, is even more forthright: "Lebed suggested reviving the post of vice president and in all modesty said that he was willing to take on the role. He has not only carried out a purge among Yeltsin's intimates, which can scarcely be regarded as a great loss, but has also dismissed a dozen or so generals. Anyone familiar with the retired general's career and his recent pronouncements will know that it is folly to expect him to turn into a rational leader." Baltimore's THE SUN, as it were picking up the theme of a commentary in the German paper DIE WELT, sums up the presidential election in Russia as follows: "Five years after the fall of communism, Russia is still a long way from a Western-style democracy. Just consider Yeltsin's disappearance from the political arena on election eve on the plainly weak excuse of having simply lost his voice. In a truly open society the media, which inform the electorate, would have demanded a full explanation. But in Russia, where concealment of the truth has been practiced for centuries, even an obvious lie does not meet with a resolute protest." The world news agencies cite the expert opinion of well-known U.S. political scientist, anti-Soviet, and Russophobe Zbigniew Brzezinski,

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

who puts the chance of a dictatorship in Russia at 50:50 and predicts dramatic developments in connection with the power struggle between Yeltsin and Lebed.

Brzezinski points out that the Russian media portray Lebed as if he were already the country's unofficial leader and the winner of the second round of the presidential election. In view of the fact that the general has been frequenting the television studios and making pronouncements on all manner of questions, in particular letting drop the vague phrase about "the state's information security," Western analysts are showing concern for press freedom in Russia. Even before the second round of the presidential election was over, the international "Reporters Sans Frontieres" organization appealed to presidential candidates Boris Yeltsin and Gennadiy Zyuganov to "safeguard press freedom in Russia." The "Reporters Sans Frontieres" organization points out that in his election action program for 1996-2000 Yeltsin promised that journalists would be guaranteed full access to all publicly significant information and openness and glasnost in the work of the authorities — except in cases stipulated by the law. Moreover, the president guaranteed journalists sure protection and support. While welcoming these expressions of intent from Yeltsin, the international organization at the same time pointed out that in the five years of his presidency "the situation has not always been ideal." The "Reporters Sans Frontiers" organization urges the Russian president to take three steps:

1. Guarantee real independence for the media from the power structures.

2. Guarantee sure protection for journalists who encounter danger when carrying out editorial assignments.

3. Guarantee journalists access to official information, with politicians and state officials concealing such information being called to account.

Incidentally, it would be fair also to call officials in the sphere of journalism to account for concealing information. For example, ORT head Mr. Blagovolin, who grossly violated the Law on Elections by not allowing an election broadcast setting out people's patriotic bloc presidential candidate G.A. Zyuganov's election program to be shown on 1 July.

Russia: OSCE Observer Says Elections Democratic, Free

LD0407082196 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 0700 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] According to OSCE observers, the Russian presidential elections were democratic and free.

Andras Barsony, chairman of the organization's parliamentary assembly, who was monitoring the elections in Moscow and other cities and towns, considered everything appropriate. If there were minor irregularities at all, they would not affect the outcome of the elections.

The OSCE observer raised only one objection, that the radio and television did not provide equal opportunities for the candidates in either rounds of the presidential election.

Russia: PRC Congratulates Yeltsin on Electoral Win

LD0507072496 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0425 GMT 5 Jul 96

[By Grigoriy Arslanov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] BEIJING, July 5 (Itar-Tass) — "You have given a direct and powerful impetus to robust development of relations between Russia and China," said a congratulatory message sent by Chinese President Jiang Zemin to Boris Yeltsin on the occasion of his being reelected to the Russian presidency for the second term.

The message expresses confidence that the traditional friendship between the Russian and Chinese peoples and the two countries' relations of partnership, aimed at maintaining strategic cooperation in the 21st century, will continue to deepen and develop steadily.

Li Peng, Premier of China's Council of State, has also sent a congratulatory message to Boris Yeltsin, expressing satisfaction with the continuous broadening and deepening of relations and cooperation between the Russian Federation and China ever since the establishment of inter-state relations at the end of 1991. The Chinese Premier wished Yeltsin new successes at the post of the President of Russia.

Russia: Japanese Premier Hopes Yeltsin Will Continue Reforms

LD0407193196 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1721 GMT 4 Jul 96

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 4 (Interfax) — The Japanese government believes the presidential elections in Russia were free and fair and the voters demonstrated high political awareness and activity in both rounds.

This fact reflects the development of democracy in Russia and deserves the highest praise, according to a statement by Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, sent to Interfax Thursday.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Although the official results of the July 3 elections have not been announced yet, the count of more than 90 percent of the ballots clearly shows demonstrates that Boris Yeltsin has been reelected for a second term, reads the statement.

Hashimoto expressed hope that Yeltsin will continue political and economic reforms in Russia.

He stressed that he will do everything possible to strengthen ties between Japan and Russia, including to resolve the territorial issue, and expressed hope that the Russian side will also take a serious approach.

Russia: Prime Minister Major Congratulates Yeltsin Victory

LD0407222896 Moscow RIA in English 1745 GMT 4 Jul 96

[By RIA Novosti correspondent Vladimir Simonov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] LONDON, JUL 4 (RIA NOVOSTI) — The outcome of the Russian presidential election is more than Mr. Yeltsin's personal triumph, it spells a nation's choice of further reforms, Prime Minister John Major of Great Britain says in a statement on this occasion.

This successful election was indicative of a deep-rooted Russian democracy, and Mr. Major is happy to congratulate Boris Yeltsin upon his re-election. He hopes that close bilateral cooperation will go on, and a further rapprochement be achieved. [The foreign] affairs [minister], also made a statement on Boris Yeltsin's landslide victory.

Russia: Canadian PM Congratulates Yeltsin on Reelection

LD0507062396 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0415 GMT 5 July 96

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Setunskiy]

[FBIS Translated Text] Ottawa, 5 July — Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien, sent Boris Yeltsin a telegram on 4 July congratulating him on his re-election as Russian president.

The message says: I would like to express my sincere congratulations on your victory in the 3 July presidential elections. The sound majority of votes you received recognizes the correctness of your vision of how to take Russia into the twentieth century as a dynamically developing member of the democratic community of nations.

The head of the Canadian Government added: Under your leadership, Russia has achieved considerable progress in carrying out economic and political refors. I am sure that the courage and resoluteness which have made it possible for Russia to be transformed during your term in office will also serve you well in the future. Difficulties still lie ahead, yet the Russians have made a clear choice favoring reforms to build a better future for themselves and their children.

Prime Minister Chretian assured Yeltsin of Canada's invariable friendship and expresses confidence that the enormous potential in the warm and extensive relations between Russia and Canada will be realized through joint efforts.

Russia: Swedish Foreign Minister Praises Russian Election Results

LD0507093796 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0837 GMT 5 Jul 96

[By Nikolay Vukolov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] STOCKHOLM, July 5 (Itar-Tass) — "I think Boris Yeltsin's win in the presidential elections runoff will have a positive effect on discussions at the 5th session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Swedish Foreign Minister Lena Hjelm-Wallen has told Itar-Tass in the Swedish parliament building where the session begins on Friday.

"It is gratifying that people in Russia demonstrated high maturity and made a choice in favour of Boris Yeltsin and the policy he pursues, including that in the foreign-political sphere," the Minister said.

Participants in the session — parliamentarians from more than 50 OSCE countries, including Russia — will focus their attention on such matters as the development of a common and comprehensive security model for Europe in the 21st century, economic cooperation and environmental protection problems.

The delegates are to devote much attention to the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina in view of the forthcoming elections, which are to be held there on September 14, this year, and which, the OSCE believes, must be "free and fair". They will also discuss human rights issues, the role of the institution of OSCE election monitors, and consider items concerning elections in Albania and urgent problems of refugees, forced migrants, and immigrants.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Russia: Yeltsin Win Might Promote Russo-Ukrainian Treaty

LD0407110196 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0809 GMT 4 Jul 96

[By Artyom Protasenko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 4 (Itar-Tass) - Boris Yeltsin's win at the presidential election runoff in Russia may hasten the signing of a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between Russia and Ukraine, Vyacheslav Nikonov, leading expert at the All-Russia Movement of Public Support for Boris Yeltsin, told a press conference here on Thursday.

Nikonov believes that complexities in relationships between the two countries "were, in many respects, brought about by the time-serving of the political struggle in Russia", but that at present "prerequisites have been established for the signing of a long-awaited general political treaty between our two countries," he pointed out.

The expert made it clear that Russia's foreign policy will not change as a result of Boris Yeltsin's win at the polls. "Relations between Russia and Ukraine are not only one of the main planks in our foreign policy but also the chief vector in European and international politics," Nikonov said.

Russia: Chernomyrdin Says Russia To Cooperate Closely With Ukraine

LD0407151396 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1353 GMT 4 Jul 96

[By Gennadiy Yezhov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 4 (Itar-Tass) — Russia will cooperate with Ukraine to fully restore the close relations during the next four years, Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin told a briefing on Thursday.

However, Chernomyrdin did not give an exact date of President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Kiev which had been delayed several times.

"Ukraine is not only a neighbour state to us. It is part of our soul, and we want to be together with it all the time, without infringing upon its sovereignty," he said.

"We feel sympathy for each other's hardships and problems. Many Ukrainians are working in Russia nowadays, let alone mixed Russian-Ukrainian families," said the Russian prime minister whose wife is an ethnic Ukrainian. Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma's spouse is an ethnic Russian.

"We shall have much work to do with our Ukrainian colleagues. As for our relations, they can be seen in a long perspective, although there are some people who want us to be apart," he said.

Speaking of the Russian presidential elections, he stressed that "Russia has chosen its way. We should solidify it for ever. Russia's government does not intend to struggle with the communists. As for communist ideology, it is quite another thing," he said.

Russia: DPRK Warned Not To Restart Graphite-Moderated Reactors

SK0407014596 Moscow Voice of Russia World Service in Korean 1200 GMT 3 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The DPRK has warned it will again operate its graphite-moderated reactors capable of producing weapons-grade plutonium in the event the United States fails to keep its promise. Regarding this, station commentator Vladimir Chernov writes:

The United States has promised to assist Pyongyang's construction of light-water reactors. Under the agreement, Washington is obliged to provide the DPRK with the heavy oil necessary for industrial production and the heating of homes until the light-water reactors begin full operation, doing so with the help of an international consortium.

The United States and other countries had opposed the operation of the graphite-moderated reactors capable of producing weapons-grade plutonium. Suspicions were aroused over whether Pyongyang had already manufactured nuclear weapons with the plutonium produced from the graphite-moderated reactors, and the international community voiced concern over the DPRK's possible possession of nuclear weapons. Because of this, some countries agreed to build light-water reactors in the DPRK and provide heavy oil until construction was completed.

However, Washington's plan to supply heavy oil, and the creation of a heavy oil supply, fund have recently hit a snag. In this regards, Pyongyang issued a statement warning Washington that it may again operate the graphite-moderated reactors. Under the agreement with the United States, the DPRK has frozen operation of its graphite-moderated reactors since 1994.

Regardless of the deadlock, the United States has made clear it will continue to supply heavy oil to Pyongyang. A spokesman for the U.S. administration stated it will veto any moves by the U.S. Congress to cut the heavy oil supply fund.

To this end, Pyongyang should refrain from hurriedly operating the graphite-reactors, respecting the efforts

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

of the international community. In addition, the DPRK should not challenge the international community, which is helping it to tide over its food crisis. the DPRK should continue to maintain relations with the surrounding world.

Russia: Bomb Smugglers Detained 1 Jul

WS0407082396 Tallinn BNS in English 1300 GMT 3 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, Jul 3, BNS — Russian security forces Monday detained a group of persons who reportedly smuggled powerful explosive devices from one of the Baltic states into Russia.

The report on the Russian RTR television channel did not make it clear from which Baltic state the bombs derived nor made any mention of the nationality of the detainees.

Aleksander Zhdanovich, head of the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB) PR department, said in the televised interview that the detainees had on them eight remote-control explosive devices containing 800 grams plastite each. He said the range of such devices was up to 150 meters.

The FSB spokesman said the bombs, which had been taken into Russia by train, might have gone off any moment.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Political Issues

Russia: Yeltsin Receives Chernomyrdin, Moscow Mayor Luzhkov

LD0407123296 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian 1100 GMT 4 Jul 96

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Boris Yeltsin today received Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin. The main subject of their meeting was naturally a discussion of the preliminary results of the presidential election in Russia.

Afterwards Boris Yeltsin received the mayor of Moscow, Yuriy Luzhkov. The head of state also held a meeting with a group of aides in which Nikolay Yegorov, head of the presidential administration, also took part. The president also had a meeting with members of the analytical group which worked for Boris Yeltsin's victory in the election.

[Video shows series of clips shot in a wood-panelled reception room. The first shows Yeltsin and Chernomyrdin standing side by side, smiling for the cameras; they then turn away and move toward a desk in the corner of the room. Yeltsin's movements seem a little stiff. The second shows Yeltsin standing, shaking hands with Luzhkov and smiling broadly. The third shows five or six aides moving forward in a line to shake Yeltsin's right hand. Again Yeltsin's movements seem a little stiff]

Russia: Yeltsin Orders Chernomyrdin To Review Decrees

LD0507090696 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0800 GMT 5 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW July 5 (Itar-Tass) — President Boris Yeltsin instructed Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin on Friday to convene a government meeting to clarify the reasons for the non-fulfilment or untimely fulfilment of the presidential decrees and resolutions.

The press service of the head of state said the instruction had been issued "in connection with reports from the regions about untimely fulfilment of decrees, resolutions and instructions of the head of state".

Yeltsin also put "personal responsibility" on his administration chief Nikolay Yegorov "for the grounds for the decisions to prolong the time of the implementation of instructions of the President of Russia". The press service did not elaborate.

Russia: Yeltsin Forms Single State Protection Service

LD0407090296 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0815 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 4 (Interfax) — The Federal Protection Service FSO and Presidential Security Service SBP are merging into a single State Protection Service, says a decree "On measures to perfect state protection" signed by President Yeltsin on July 2.

The president ruled that "the Presidential Security Service be included in the Federal Protection Service to be subordinate to its leadership."

Although the decree says nothing of who will lead the combined service, Interfax has learned that Lt. General Yuriy Krapivin, heading FSO and acting as SBP chief will be in charge of the new security organ.

Russia: President's Health Should Not Be State Secret

MM0407161796 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 2

[Report by Sergey Leskov: "Everything in Order With the President's Health, as They Say, But It Remains a Closely-Guarded Secret"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The final days before an election are always marked by a particular level of activity on the part of the contenders everywhere. But Yeltsin did not appear before the voters at all and disappeared from the television screens. Rumors about his health circulated, of course, and there were conflicting versions — ranging from inflammation of the throat to cardiovascular disease. The conjectures were fueled by the absence of any official clarification, and the personal impressions of those people who met with the president merely intensified the confusion. And it must be admitted that the president's headquarters did nothing to stop the rumors from circulating. Meanwhile, A. Zyuganov made unambiguous statements that he is ready to submit to a medical examination....

After all, this was an extremely crucial moment for the election race. So many times already people have spoken about the need for a regular medical report on the head of state, as happens in democratic countries. The health of the president, who holds the supreme administrative post, is above all not his personal affair alone and every citizen has the right to know the condition of the person who is responsible for his security and well-being (let us recall that even F. Mitterrand's medical bulletins were made public). In addition, the president himself benefits from and needs

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

this procedure because by their nature rumors have the treacherous ability to dramatically inflame the real situation. The president's entourage agreed a number of times, saying: Yes, this is an omission, we will keep citizens informed. But still the head of state's health remains a closely-guarded secret.

In December 1994 there was a nasal septum operation. In April 1995 there was hypertonic vegeto-vascular dystonia. In July 1995 there was cardiac ischemia. And each of the president's visits to the hospital was marked by debates and rumors which undermine his prestige and play into his opponent's hands. The official diagnosis always comes late and this time seemed superfluous.

We tried to find out the president's state of health for ourselves. At the president's medical center, correspondent T. Bateneva was told that there is no official information on the state of the president's health because there is no reason for such information to exist. The president has not sought medical help in recent days. Sergey Mironov, the center's director, is not in, his secretary said, and will not be in today. It proved impossible to find out where the doctor is, since everything is fine with his main patient.

However, a well-informed source at the Russian Federation Ministry of Health and Medical Industry reported: Several days ago B. Yeltsin did have a slight cold, which affected his vocal cords. Presumably the heart disease story appeared because the medical term "angina" has different meanings in Russia [inflammation of the throat] and the West. But this makes an official explanation all the more necessary.

The Russian president began the first day after the election at 0830 hours in the Kremlin residence. A television address to Russian citizens was recorded. At 1000 hours there was a meeting with Prime Minister V. Chernomyrdin. It is strenuous work. The president is going to need to be in robust health in order to fulfill his election program. And the question of his health should certainly not be turned into a state secret.

Russia: Chernomyrdin Orders Improvements in Budget, Taxation

LD0507090896 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0751 GMT 5 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 5 (Interfax) — The Russian government must move to ease tensions in the budget and financial fields, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin told ministers Friday. The government must "fight tax evasion and excessive tax exemptions, be able to collect all taxes and show a less liberal approach to the offering of budget guarantees," Chernomyrdin said.

According to Chernomyrdin, public property yielded "too little" profit and political considerations frequently influenced moves to raise the budget in the first half of 1996. As of July 1, the federal and provincial budgets failed to get more than 75 trillion rubles of planned revenues, Chernomyrdin said. The government is busy drawing up a program for "both emergency and near future action."

"There have been serious suggestions for better tax collection and normal cash and non-cash circulation," Chernomyrdin said. The government hopes to "raise more money by way of placing Eurobonds on the international market" in the second half of 1996.

Chernomyrdin instructed the finance ministry Friday to restrict the sale of T-bills on the domestic market. The government is about to reconsider customs duty on merchandise carried across the national border by natural persons, including "shuttle" salesmen. An appropriate document has already been drawn up and will soon be revealed to the public. Instead of imposing bans, the government intends to "instill order" in, and has opted for a flexible approach to, cross-border trade operations.

The deputy prime ministers and the government commissions for the improvement of the payment system and tax legislation must "step up action," Chernomyrdin said.

Russia: Chernomyrdin 4 Jul News Briefing, Government Tasks Detailed

MM0407164696 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA Special Edition in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 5

["Own Information" report: "There Will Be No Respite for the Executive"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Boris Yeltsin has instructed Viktor Chernomyrdin to form a new government. The prime minister announced this yesterday at a news conference at the headquarters of the All-Russia Movement for the Public Support of B. Yeltsin following a meeting with the head of state in the morning. This task will be carried out in the very near future, Viktor Chernomyrdin said.

"Russians have made their choice once and for all; democracy has triumphed in Russia," the government chairman stated. He expressed the conviction that "the great trust of a great people will be justified."

Viktor Chernomyrdin warned that there would be no respite for the executive after the elections. The new government, which will be formed in the very near future, will have to think about how to begin a new chapter in Russia, he said, adding that he had already

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

held a meeting with members of the government, at which priority tasks were determined.

"Boris Yeltsin is in a good mood, is pleased with the published results of the elections, and is raring to go into battle," the head of government stated.

In the next seven to 10 days, he stated, we will announce the program on which the government will be working. According to Viktor Chernomyrdin, this program has already been discussed during yesterday's meeting with Boris Yeltsin, but work on it began earlier. Now that we are working on the 1997 budget it is essential to determine a list of the government's priority actions, the prime minister stressed. Replying to questions from journalists, he noted that cadre questions were not discussed during his meeting with the head of state.

Viktor Chernomyrdin said that a government session will be held Friday [5 July]. The government will continue to work until the new government is formed, the prime minister stated.

Now we must remove those failures and difficulties that arose in the first years of the reforms, he stressed. In his words, those who voted for Gennadiy Zyuganov mainly voted not for the leader of the CPRF [Communist Party of the Russian Federation], but against those very "difficulties and failures." "We must move beyond them and create normal conditions," the prime minister said.

Viktor Chernomyrdin also stated that he has never advocated dividing people into "Reds and Whites." "Life itself has done this, but that is now history. Today we need to compose ourselves and work," he stressed.

Commenting on the question of whether the powers of the Security Council overlap with the powers of the government, the premier said that "in all matters relating to security and order, everyone, including the Security Council, has plenty of work."

"I see nothing bad about the fact that Aleksandr Lebed wants to devote extra attention to questions of economic security," the prime minister said.

Stressing that members of the government should be "professionals who know their job," V. Chernomyrdin did not rule out that the new cabinet would include professionals representing different political tendencies.

Russia: Zyuganov Sees 'Two-Party' System Developing

LD0407181096 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1702 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Jul 4 (Interfax) — The People's Patriotic Bloc which supported Communist presidential candidate Gennadiy Zyuganov in presidential elections in Russia is likely to be reorganized into a broad people's patriotic movement with its own charter and program, Zyuganov said Thursday in Moscow. The official decision will be announced Saturday at a full session of the bloc's council.

"A two-party system is being shaped in Russia. The bloc of the left-wing people's patriotic forces, which is rapidly progressing, constitutes one part of this system," he said.

He said that the bloc is likely to shape a shadow coalition government which "will make proposals and be in opposition to the current course."

He thinks at the same time that the bloc might consider proposals on joining the government after the essence of "the current course" is explained.

He described the second wing as "the party of power" which is "evolving into a right-wing centrist coalition but has no clear-cut program and is using its power levers."

Zyuganov said that "the party of power" has borrowed the ideas generated by the people's patriotic bloc and is trying to implement them, although "without changing the socioeconomic policies none of the promises given by the authorities on the eve of the presidential elections can be implemented."

In his opinion, a "third force" was a failure. "It played the role of an opposition force but when it came to acting from an opposition platform, everybody, from Zhirinovskiy to Yavlinskiy, actually merged with the 'party of power,'" he said.

He criticized the mass media's performance during the election campaign and said that "their job is to inform, not to manipulate the public," without violating "the citizens' right to information."

Russia: Yavlinskiy Addresses News Conference

LD0407150796 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1326 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] [Correspondent Kandysheva] A meeting with Grigoriy Yavlinskiy was held in the central house of journalists in Moscow today. Grigoriy Alekseyevich opened the meeting with a message of greetings. He greeted Boris Nikolayevich on his reelection and highly praised the fact — and here I want to quote Grigoriy Alekseyevich — that between the first and the second rounds Boris Yeltsin took steps which obviously proved that he had no intention to resort to the use of force under any circumstances. This kind of step deserves the highest praise, the Yabloko leader thinks.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Announcer] Yes, it is a triumph of democracy.

[Kandysheva] Well, you will agree that it is very pleasant that we can say we live in such a country. Naturally, many questions were put to Yavlinskiy. You know yourself, Lyudmila, because you often attended Yavlinskiy's news conferences, that he literally gets showered with questions.

[Announcer] And his answers are interesting.

[Kandysheva] Yes, yes, yes and that is why his news conferences are so popular. Naturally, most questions on this occasion revolved round Yavlinskiy's desire and the desire of his closest colleagues to take part in the work of the government. However, it is not with this that I wish to begin. Please listen to what Yavlinskiy had to say on the situation in which our highest authorities had found themselves on the eve of the elections.

[Announcer] We are switching on the recording.

[Begin Yavlinskiy recording] You have now been able to observe on the eve of the elections and between the first and the second round the condition of Russia's highest authorities, when everything simply fell down like a house of cards the moment anybody got too close or the moment anybody new appeared on the scene. This can no longer be tolerated. It is a problem of personnel policies and it is a problem of real policies, their merits or otherwise. [end recording]

[Kandysheva] The main question now is the conditions on which Grigoriy Yavlinskiy will agree to take part in the work of the government. He began his answer to this question in a somewhat roundabout manner; he gave us the benefit of his views and told us what these presidential elections of ours resembled.

[Begin Yavlinskiy recording] The elections are not to be construed as a referendum on which policies are better. The way these elections were held can be described thus — look how bad this Zyuganov guy is, this is what the real point was. It seems to me that the main question now is not so much the question of the composition of the government, and consequently not of appointments and posts, but the question of what policies will be pursued.

I can say that if the policies the government is going to pursue are satisfactory, and perceived as such, then, of course, participation in the broadest possible sense is possible. However, the point is that a liberal economic course must be followed, this is in the first place. In the second place, a course must be followed linked to the defence of human rights, based on the defense of human rights in domestic policies and, correspondingly, in foreign policy too. Here, then, you have the main values of a course we can lend our support to. Any watering down will not do as far as we are concerned.

We need an answer why the presidential elections were held at all. When will an answer be given at long last concerning the land policy? When will a clear answer be forthcoming on the protection of vital interests of private property and ownership in general, individual and private property and ownership, the issue underpinning the main reforms in the country. It is altogether pointless to hope that citizens will rush in their masses to support the reforms, given the kind of welfare policies of the past few years.

Yes, the citizens voted against communists, but it does not mean at all that they are delighted with the course of reforms in our country and this is the main issue today. Problems in many areas have remained unresolved. The problem of an effective continuation of the course linked with privatization remains unresolved.

The question why 17,000bn roubles can be found for some kind of imaginary restoration in Chechnya, whilst there is no money to pay pensions and wages remains absolutely and completely an open one.

Why is it that privileges extended to the biggest Soviet [as heard] monopolies amount, according to the Finance Ministry, to approximately 170 trillion rubles, according to a Finance Ministry statement?

This theme can be continued. Why do we have a tax system which does not make it possible for the government to collect more than 40 percent of taxes? This is what the government must now ponder. [end recording]

Russia: Lebed Pledges To 'Cool Down' Hot Spots 'Quite Quickly'

MM0407141896 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 1

[Interview with Security Council Secretary Aleksandr Lebed by Kirill Svetitskiy; place and date not given: "Aleksandr Lebed: 'The President Has Definitely Changed'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Svetitskiy] Russia is left with the same president. Does this mean that everything will carry on as before?

[Lebed] The president has definitely changed. Even my appointment offers an example of this. You must agree that I am something hitherto unseen in the Kremlin.... The country has now made its choice. Everything will be normal. We will begin to cleanse ourselves [ochishchatsya] slowly, stage by stage. An upsurge will begin. I have no doubt about it.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The situation has indeed changed radically. Fresh blood is being transfused into the authorities. I am one example of such fresh blood. I think that the new leaders of the Ministry of Defense, the Federal Security Service, and a series of other departments will bring fresh blood and minds to the common cause. New people will come in, who will serve Russia and its president who has been elected by the whole people. I have already chosen one candidate for each post and have adduced serious arguments for each appointment. The edicts are on Boris Nikolayevich's desk.

I personally have to make several official trips to "hot spots." Including Chechnya. I think that, in the new political conditions and with help from the president's new team which is being formed, I will be able to "cool down" these regions quite quickly. I will work on the national security concept. Sound ideas will not remain just on paper. I promise this.

Russia: Zhirinovskiy Willing To Be Justice Minister

LD0307162696 Moscow NTV in Russian 1500 GMT 3 Jul 96

[From the "Segodnya" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] After voting today, chief liberal-democrat Vladimir Zhirinovskiy said he was ready to hold a dialogue with all politicians and had already found his niche in a future coalition government.

[Begin Zhirinovskiy recording] The rights of the justice ministry could be expanded now. It will deal with the legal base for the activities of all bodies of power. Certain questions of land-tenure regulations could be passed over to it, even perhaps relations between the nationalities. I could head it. [end recording]

However, Zhirinovskiy stressed that such a step would tie him hand and foot for it would be difficult for him to criticize power.

Russia: Deputy Premier Yarov Explains Social Reform Goals

LD0407170096 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1500 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Viktor Chernomyrdin today [4 July] did not rule out that Gennadiy Zyuganov could be appointed first deputy prime minister in charge of social issues. He has confirmed that the government is working on a program of social reforms with the view of attracting foreign credits for these programs. First of all, this concerns medical care.

First Deputy Prime Minister Yuriy Yarov, admitted in a live interview with our radio station that, indeed, changes are needed in the social sphere.

[Yarov] Anyway, we all can see that the government has corrected its course, especially in the sphere which we describe as social issues. This was not by chance, it was a must. A search is under way and not.... No increase will take place just for the sake of increasing, we do not want to turn Russia into a big social security department. We want to build a civilized society and move towards a market economy. That is why the pension system will be reformed. It will reflect people's expectations and will avoid payment-levelling. We do not agree with this levelling. Everyone should make a regular contribution and, after retirement, people should receive additional payments depending on their personal contribution in comparison with the minimum to be given to everyone regardless of their lifelong contributions to the state. It goes without saying that the structure of health care will be changed. It will be improved. We will have to find an optimal decision which will meet the requirements of the people of Russia and also meet high standards.

Russia: 'Russia Is Our Home' Set To Become Political Party

LD0307221796 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2153 GMT 3 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 4 (Interfax) — The Our Home is Russia public-and-political movement will be transformed into a political party by the end of this year, Vladimir Babichev, head of the Russian governmental apparatus and chairman of the Our Home is Russia executive committee, told Interfax in the early hours of Thursday.

"Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin will definitely remain the leader of the movement and the party," he said.

"Boris Yeltsin's re-election as Russian president will accelerate the party's creation," Babichev believes.

"Yeltsin's election victory will also seriously influence the formation in the State Duma of a coalition of democratic forces" whose creation is now "as realistic as never before," he said.

"The Our Home is Russia faction in the State Duma will aim at forming such a coalition," Babichev said, adding that such efforts "will be supported by other democratically-minded deputies."

When asked about the future of the Communist Party of Russia at the country's political arena, Babichev cautioned against expecting "a quick demise of the leftists."

"This is a force that needs to be taken into consideration and that will continue to seriously conteract reforms," he said.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

When asked to comment on Russian Security Council Secretary Aleksandr Lebed's statement that Russia needs to re-introduce the post of vice president, he said this matter was "the Russian president's affair." Babichev also said he thought that "there should be no rush" regarding this matter.

Russia: Presidential Council Member Says Government Base To Increase

LD0307174596 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1700 GMT 3 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 3 (Interfax) — If Russian President Boris Yeltsin wins the presidential elections, the government's and regime's political and professional basis should be broadened, Sergey Karaganov, a member of the presidential council, told a briefing in Moscow Wednesday [3 July].

The government needs a lot of new faces, he said. Karaganov explained that this will not be a coalition government such as that proposed by leader of the Communist Party Gennadiy Zyuganov.

Those who can work in a team must be included in the government, Karaganov said. He believes that both Yeltsin and Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin are prepared to expand the political and professional basis of the government. If Yeltsin wins, it is the president and the prime minister that should decide who will be government ministers, Karaganov said. He added that the president needs a strong mandate for the next stage of serious reforms.

Asked about Yeltsin's health, Karaganov said that the president had caught a cold and had a sore throat. He denied that there was anything more to the president's illness.

Military Issues

Russia: Yeltsin Orders Proper Fuel Supplies to Armed Forces

LD0507091096 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0745 GMT 5 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 5 (Interfax) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin has instructed Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, Minister of Finance Vladimir Panskov and Acting Minister of Defense Mikhail Kolesnikov to ensure timely supplies of fuel to the Russian Armed Forces during their preparations for the fall and winter season, the presidential press service reports.

The instruction is prompted by the need to deliver fuel, combustibles and lubricants to units stationed in the extreme north of Russia.

Russia: Rokhlin Accuses Grachev of Corruption

LD0507101196 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0955 GMT 5 Jul 96

[By Pavel Kuznetsov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW July 5 (Itar-Tass) — A leading lawmaker and chairman of the State Duma committee on defence Lev Rokhlin accused former Defence minister Pavel Grachev of corruption on Friday, saying the dismissed minister "has bogged down in corruption and surrounded himself with spongers and thieves".

General Rokhlin, who commanded the seizure of Groznyy in January 1995, told the State Duma that Grachev had allowed "massive criminal embezzlements in the armed forces" and named three top generals responsible for that.

Rokhlin, who cited a report of the Accopunting Chamber of Russia, said Inspector General of the Defence Ministry General Konstantin Kobets "vigorously" defended the "Lyukon" company which had to provide 600 apartments for the military in the last three years, but provided none. Rokhlin said Kobets "whose duties are to guard the interests of the Russian Army", was doing that "because his son is a co-founder of the company".

Rokhlin said that the Defence Ministry, instead of filing charges against "Lyukon", concluded another contract with the company for the construction of 6,000 apartments, but failed to provide the necessary finances for that. "Lyukon", "which has done nothing to construct the promised apartments", demanded 188 billion roubles of fines from the ministry and Kobets became "a vigorous defender of the company".

Rokhlin also said that former head of the Main Budget and Finance Department of the Defence Ministry Vasiliy Vorobev had transferred 23.1 million US dollars, earned from sales of ammunition in Bulgaria, to the office of the German Deutchebank in the city of Zossen where the money disappeared.

Despite a warning from the Russian Central Bank, Vorobev also transferred 4.5 million US dollars to the Latvian Industrial Bank where the money disappeared after the bank went bankrupt.

Besides, Grachev's brother-in-law, Colonel General Dmitriy Kharchenko "criminally exchanged five million US dollars into roubles and transferred them to a military insurance company for seven per cent annual interest", according to Rokhlin.

At the minimum credit interest rate of 120-180 per cent, the money could have provided 13 billion roubles to the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Defence Ministry, while in reality it received only 830 million roubles, according to Rokhlin.

"The money has not been returned so far", he added.

Russia: Military Prosecutor's Office Reacts to Grachev Corruption

LD0507112196 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1102 GMT 5 Jul 96

[By Anatoliy Yurkin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW July 5 (Itar-Tass) — A high-ranking official of the Russian military prosecutor's office said "it was premature to speak about embezzlements" by top generals as investigation of their cases had not been completed yet.

Commenting on the report of Lev Rokhlin, the chairman of the State Duma committee on defence, who accused ex-Defence minister Pavel Grachev and five top generals of corruption, the official, who asked not to be named, told Tass on Friday that military prosecutors were currently investigating whether Generals Vyacheslav Zherebtsov and Valery Lapshov had lawfully obtained their housing.

"Until the work is over completely, it is premature to speak about embezzlements", he said.

At the same time the military prosecutor's office issued a statement on Thursday in which it admitted that "the facts about law violations by officials of the Defence Ministry are no secret" for it.

The official said the military prosecutor's office had intensified the work to stop abuse of office of late. In 1995 428 officers, including generals, faced criminal charges.

At present military investigators are dealing with embezzlements worth billions of roubles. "Five generals and other high-ranking officials are facing criminal charges", he said, but did not name anyone.

The military prosecutor's office denied media reports that ex-Defence Minister Grachev had ordered it to close certain criminal cases.

"Grachev has never referred to the Main military prosecutor's office, either orally or in the written form, about dropping criminal or other responsibility against anyone", said a statement of the office.

It said chief military prosecutor Valentin Panichev maintained only "office relations" with Grachev and daily protested against some 20 orders of the defence minister which violated acting legislation.

Russia: Rodionov, Kobets Said Main Candidates for Defense Ministry

MM0407174796 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 4

[Report by Leonid Krutakov: "Who Will Step Into Grachev's Shoes?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The battle for the post of defense minister is now under way in earnest. Two candidates have entered the finishing straight: Igor Rodionov, chief of the General Staff Academy, and Chief Military Inspector Konstantin Kobets.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA has learned that draft edicts have been prepared for both candidates, and one of these is due to be signed 7 July.

Lebed and those generals who have not soiled their regimental dresses in the waters of the market economy are making waves for Rodionov. Fledglings from Grachev's nest are rooting for Kobets.

Defense Committee Chief Lev Rokhlin intends to make public information about Konstantin Kobets' family business at today's Duma session.

Russia: Duma Deputy Proposes Candidates for Defense Minister

LD0407203296 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1644 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 4 (Interfax) — While forming Russia's renewed Cabinet of Ministers it is necessary to choose a candidacy to the post of the defense minister together with the candidacy to the post of chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces, member of the State Duma Defense Committee, retired Col. Gen. Eduard Vorobev (unregistered deputies group Democratic Choice of Russia) has said.

He sees the candidacy of current head of the Academy of the General Staff Col. Gen. Igor Rodionov as one of the "worthy" ones.

According to Vorobev, he "knows Rodionov as a perfect expert very well" because he served with him in the Transcarpathian military district in the second half of the seventies. Both commanded regiments, then Rodionov was appointed commander of the 24th division.

At the same time Vorobev said that Rodionov's age, (he will turn 60 shortly), "may play not in his favor." The best decision would be "to supplement the great experience of General Rodionov by outstanding qualities of such military experts as head of the Federal Border Service General Andrey Nikolayev, who could head the General Staff."

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Vorobev qualified Nikolayev as "a cultural, educated expert who possesses the talent to create such a situation where servicemen do not fear to express their opinion and he can listen to them."

Russia: Minister Pak Interviewed on Outlook for Defense Sector

MM0407101296 Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA in Russian 28 Jun 96 p 5

[Interview with Russian Defense Industry Minister Zinoviy Pak by Vasiliy Ustyuzhanin under the "Authoritative View" rubric; place and date not given: "Russian Defense Industry Minister Zinoviy Pak: National Security Needs Guarantees"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Ustyuzhanin] Talk of the military-industrial complex's ruin has became commonplace. Is it true that we have now passed a critical point beyond which the sector can no longer recover and its previous level cannot be reached?

[Pak] What does this mean — the "sector's recovery"? It still exists and turns out unique products. In many areas we are still ahead of our competitors. But the difficulties that have befallen us all are, of course, enormous.

A return to our previous level is indeed impossible given current funding. This primarily concerns our level of output. But this is not our ultimate task. What is at issue is not this but whether we will succeed in reaching a new level of quality. Here I give the answer — yes, we can.

[Ustyuzhanin] How soon?

[Pak] This depends on many factors. First and foremost on whether the economic situation will develop in the country as a whole. It is absolutely clear that we cannot do without some increase in the state order, first and foremost for research and development work. At present the level of our equipment and weapons makes it possible to provide guarantees of our national security. But there is now a pressing need to replace weapon types which are coming to the end of their guaranteed lifetimes.

[Ustyuzhanin] What fuels your optimism?

[Pak] Changes in the government's and parliament's policies.

[Ustyuzhanin] Have they begun to allocate more money?

[Pak] Partly. Although this is still a miserly sum compared to what we need.

[Ustyuzhanin] So what will happen?

[Pak] There will be a overall change. The government is gradually realizing that the defense sector is by no means a constant drain on budget funds. Several presidential edicts and government decrees have been adopted recently to form powerful financial-industrial groups. Which have the right to enter the foreign market independently and to obtain a certain proportion of the state order.

Taxes are at present the biggest thorn in our side. The current taxes are causing a decline in production and encouraging primitive technologies. Some reduction in the tax burden in ground-breaking areas, especially high technologies, may have a significant effect. The budget may, of course, experience difficulties due to tax shortfalls, but it is possible to take out external loans for a while for social programs to support people. During this time the producers will gather momentum and will more than pay back the shortfall.

If in addition the political situation stabilizes, investments will also be forthcoming. Including the billions of Russian-owned dollars awaiting profitable investment at home which are for the moment lying untouched abroad. Investments will give the development of high technologies a shot in the arm.

Customs policy with regard to foreign partners should also be flexible. For example we grant them customs breaks for a year for the import of finished goods which we lack, then after a year we only grant concessions for the import of technologies. After all there's no hiding the fact that we have few good technologies.

[Ustyuzhanin] Do you think that the West is prepared to invest in our defense industry?

[Pak] Why not? After all, we also have an immense volume of output from conversion. I think that it will in general be the main source. There is a lot of spare money abroad. I was recently in the United Arab Emirates, where I met with many businessmen. They say: "Here a dollar invested gives 1-2 percent profit. But we can earn 15-20 percent in your country. Let's cooperate." But they need the certainty that their investments will not disappear without trace or be confiscated, nationalized, and so on, and that there will be a stable taxation policy. This is also advantageous to us: Design ideas will begin to be produced again, shops will come back to life, specialists will return to their jobs, and social tension will be defused.

But as ill luck would have it, one unexpected event after another is affecting poor Russia. There is continual uncertainty. At first there was perestroyka, then elections, then some more elections — the country just will not settle down. Under such circumstances it is, of course,

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

risky to make investments. So I hope that now we will finally make our choice for the next four year and begin to work without looking back.

[Ustyuzhanin] Who will you be voting for?

[Pak] For Yeltsin. Because he is tied up with long-term investment. Over the past few years he has been to hell and back, has been in such extreme situations and been so tested that it would be a mistake to replace him with someone else now.

[Ustyuzhanin] Did you say that we are ahead of our competitors in some areas?

[Pak] I will give you the example of my own design bureau, where I was general designer. Our technologies for the production of rocket fuel were 20 years ahead of the Americans'. Now I judge that we are 15 years ahead. The Americans have made an effort in recent years. But if, God forbid, they poach a number of our specialists and secrets, our advantage may be reduced to 10 years. In the past we were able to concentrate considerable human resources and funding in these areas, allowing us to forge ahead. On the one hand 10 years is still a very long time — on the other it is a short period of time if you are not progressing.

Take another example. The Su-37 fighter plane and the An-70 transport plane. They are superior to all European planes. The Italians, Germans, and British are beginning to show particular interest in the An-70 design. The Germans are always saying: "Give us one An-70 and we will swap it for a squadron of Hercules aircraft." At present a superlarge airliner is also being developed.

We are currently drawing up a program together with the government for the sector's development until 2010. In it we set out the development prospects for unique high technologies. For example, the production of composite materials, in particular, reinforcing fibers. In Soviet times we built three enterprises in Kamensk-Shakhtinsk, Tver, and Krasnoyarsk. They produced fibers that were used for both civilian and military purposes. There were no and still are no equivalents abroad. But the state order was reduced and external markets shrank owing to the USSR's collapse. The enterprises are in a bad way. The same goes for microelectronic components and other technologies. The program sets the task of breathing life into them. For this it is necessary, first, to create a sizable internal market so that domestic enterprises have demand for this output and, second, to find new external sales markets.

[Ustyuzhanin] Does the formation of the Ministry of the Defense Industry in place of the Russian Federation Committee for Defense Sectors of Industry reflect a new direction in government economic policy?

[Pak] Absolutely. It is necessary to bring together that which has now been dissolved among joint-stock companies.

[Ustyuzhanin] Do you envisage a review of privatization?

[Pak] I am looking very carefully at what privatization has and has not given us. I will say the following. The losses even of unique small-scale production facilities might have happened even without privatization. For the simple reason that there was no work. I do not know of any cases of a production facility being privatized specially in order to avoid having to finance it. Now all enterprises are in need of state support — both state enterprises per se, enterprises in which some shares have been sold, and privatized enterprises.

I repeat that everything can be put right provided that the economy begins to function in a stable manner. Another thing that is important for us now is to attract young people into the defense sector. I recently made a proposal at a session of the Russian Federation Presidential Council for Scientific and Technical Policy to introduce deferment from induction into the Army for young specialists going to work in the defense sector. After all, no one will lose out because of this. Especially the Army. And science and industry will certainly be the winners.

What do I mean by this idea? You now hear complaints from every quarter that there is nothing to feed, clothe, and arm the Army with. And everyone is begging — give us money, money, money. Here we are putting forward an ideal solution — on the one hand we will reduce the pressure on the military budget, and on the other hand we will assist the Army technically.

If we cannot now hand on to a new generation of defense industry workers our knowledge, experience, and unique solutions to design problems and guarantee continuity in research, our national security may be put at risk. For the moment previous years' achievements enable us to ensure that it is more or less secure. But it is dangerous to stop. In order to prevent this we must involve young people in high technology. There are, after all, almost no young specialists in the defense sector today. Only a few committed individuals have remained. The majority have gone off to earn their bread as stall holders or have retrained as shuttle traders and so on. But this is shameful.... Not only material but moral incentives are required to return them to their former field. I have proposed them.

At present the draft presidential edict is doing the rounds of officials' offices. I hope that the president supports us. He has recently been attentive to the sector's needs.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

After all, it is a question not of hundreds of thousands of deferments but of at most several thousand. But I am convinced that the effect on the country will be many times greater.

Federal Assembly

Russia: Speaker Believes Duma Will Reapprove Chernomyrdin

LD0407124696 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1218 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 4 (Interfax) — State Duma Speaker Gennadiy Seleznev (of the Communist Party faction) believes that most deputies will support the candidacy of Viktor Chernomyrdin if President Boris Yeltsin requests the Duma to appoint him as prime minister again.

"Factions and committees will discuss this, but my intuition says that a majority of deputies will endorse his candidacy," Seleznev told journalists on Thursday in answer to a question from Interfax. If the Duma declines to approve the candidacy submitted to it, under the current legislation the president will have the right to dissolve the lower house of Russia's parliament.

According to Seleznev, the Duma will evidently alter its work schedule and postpone its August vacations because of the president's inauguration (to be held on August 6th or 7th) and the appointment of prime minister. "Evidently the president will decide who will be included in the government before his official inauguration, and therefore he may present the candidacy of prime minister to the Duma earlier," Seleznev said. "And he will be right, there is no need to drag our feet," he added.

Russia: Duma Committee Demands Confirmation of Defense Minister

LD0507092296 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 0800 GMT 5 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] General Lev Rokhlin, chairman of the Duma Defense Committee, demanded that General Igor Rodionov be confirmed as defense minister. This motion was supported on behalf of the LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] and the CPRF [Communist Party of the Russian Federation] by Vladimir Zhirinovskiy and Anatoliy Lukyanov.

Lev Rokhlin also agreed that it is necessary to make amendments to the constitution which would envision the defense minister's confirmation by the State Duma.

Then the general announced facts of corruption in the Defense Ministry, accusing General Aleksandr Kobets. Speaking out on the present-day state of the armed forces, Rokhlin accused generals Podkolzin and Semenev of being unable to command troops.

Russia: Prospects of Rybkin Directing Duma Once Again Examined

MK0507092796 Moscow KURANTY in Russian 2 Jul 96 p 2

[Analysis by Aleksandr Povorin: "Will Rybkin Gobble Up Seleznev?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A new scandal seems to be brewing in the State Duma while our public is awaiting results of the presidential election. This time around, the spotlight is on the position of chairman of the lower house of parliament. Gennadiy Seleznev, who seems to have become firmly entrenched as CPRF [Communist Party of the Russian Federation] speaker, unexpectedly faces a well-known rival.

The past week saw an extremely vigorous activity of the head of the previous, Fifth Duma, Ivan Rybkin. First, it came to light that the president appointed the ex-speaker chairman of the Political Consultative Council with an offer made to join it to all the parties and movements represented in the State Duma and to public associations which failed to clear the five-percent hurdle.

In the next move, being leader of the Socialist Party of Russia, Ivan Petrovich [Rybkin], Boris Fedorov (the "Forward, Russia!" movement), and Sergey Shakhray (Party of Russian Unity and Accord) announced the formation of an All-Russia Democratic Union (VDS), whose objective it is to unite all to whom are "dear the ideas of freedom, democracy, and Russian reforms."

People familiar with behind-the-scenes politics are saying that such activism is far from accidental: Ivan Rybkin must be wanting to once again direct the State Duma. Judging by what Rybkin and his new political allies are saying, this prognosis is not without grounds. Suffice it to say that the VDS's immediate plans include the formation of a broad-based non-Communist parliamentary coalition, which could bring together 235 to 245 deputies to thereby oppose the CPRF faction, "Norodovlastiye" [People's Power] and the Agrarians.

The men behind the new political association are not hiding their task to elect someone else instead of the current speaker, Gennadiy Seleznev. His confederates think that the main argument in favor of Rybkin is that the Fifth Duma, unlike today's Duma, worked successfully: It was less into politics and more into laws. Today the Duma has actually turned into Gennadiy Zyuganov's election campaign staff and many CPRF

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

activists have been included in the Duma support personnel as all sorts advisers and consultants.

Such active efforts on the part of Ivan Rybkin seem to have seriously alarmed Gennadiy Seleznev. The Communist speaker has even called his predecessor a "political failure, who is always trying to adapt himself to changing political situation." And then, Seleznev generally has "a feeling that Rybkin and Lakhova have been tasked in Boris Nikolayevich [Yeltsin]'s campaign staff with discrediting the Duma at every corner, something they are doing successfully."

However, the former speaker and the current one may squabble as long as they like. Much more interesting is another thing: Where Ivan Petrovich [Rybkin] and his confederates are going to find 235 to 245 parliamentarians for their coalition? Indeed, the number of non-Communists in the Russia Is Our Home, Yabloko, Russian Regions together with anti-Communists and deputies elected in single-seat constituencies does not exceed 170 (and this is when Yabloko is not going to play ball with the Communists having learned the lesson of electing the speaker early this year). At the same time, the number of seats held by the CPRF faction, "Narodovlastiye," and the Agrarians is around 230 (with 226 votes being necessary to pass one or another decision).

What Ivan Rybkin's supporters are counting on? First, they are hoping to draw into their coalition Vladimir Zhirinovskiy with his 50 seats of the LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] faction. Second, it is no secret that there will be a redistribution of forces in the lower house of the Federal Assembly depending on the presidential election results. If the results are not in favor of the Communists, the outflow of seats from the leftist factions to the Rybkin coalition is inevitable.

At the moment, parliamentarians work in their election districts and, like the rest of the country, they are eager to know the name of a new head of state. Once they are back in their own building on Okhotnyy Ryad, the victor will already be known. Regardless of who he is going to be, a new standoff in the State Duma is inevitable. You cannot help it — the position of chairman is a serious thing.

Russia: Shakhray, Others Seek Democratic Majority Coalition in Duma

LD0207114496 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1002 GMT 2 Jul 96

[By Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, July 2 (Itar-Tass) — Our Home is Russia faction supports the idea of forming a coalition of democratic majority in the State Duma, the idea advanced the other day by independent deputies Sergey Shakhray, Ivan Rybkin and Boris Fedorov. Aleksandr Shokhin, one of the leaders of the faction, First Deputy Speaker of the State Duma, said this to Itar-Tass. "This will not be easy to achieve, but progress to this should be made," he said.

Shokhin believes that in order to make pro-Communist factions and groups of deputies unable to impose their will on the Duma, it is necessary to solve a number of problems, above all, reach agreement on voting in the same way on essential draft laws. "We are yet to create the mechanisms for interaction of factions of deputies of democratic orientation," Shokhin said.

Shokhin doubted that democratic parliamentarians will be able to attract to their side Vladimir Zhirinovskiy's LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] faction, but he did not rule out the possibility of achieving solidarity on specific matters of lawmaking, including major draft laws.

"I believe that anti-Communism of the leader of the Liberal Democratic faction, showed in the Duma more than once, will assist us in this cause," Shokhin said. He said it will be very difficult to attract parliamentarians from the group of the Communist Party and allied groups — Agrarian and People's Power, to the side of democratic coalition. Shokhin believes that in this case there can be consent only on some specific matters of lawmaking.

"We do not view the idea of democratic majority in the State Duma as the combination of factions and group of deputies of democratic orientation. We view it as a parliamentary majority needed for joint voting to prevent the passage of pro-communist versions of laws," Shokhin said. Shokhin hopes that by the time of voting in the Duma on a Premier's candidature the coalition of democratic majority will have already been formed.

Vladimir Lukin, one of the leaders of Yabloko group, Chairman of the International Affairs Commission, described the proposal of free independent deputies for a coalition of democratic parliamentary majority as "not sufficiently fought out tactically." He believes that this proposal should have first been circulated in the media. "There is a need for talking with political forces represented in the State Duma," he said.

Lukin said Yabloko group was not approached for the matter which, he believes, will undoubtedly complicate the implementation of this fruitful idea.

"If anybody in the Duma wishes to cooperate with Yabloko faction, without whose participation a democratic majority can hardly be visualised, it is necessary to begin with meetings with representatives of the group

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

rather than public statements," Lukin said. "Regrettably, this matter has not been discussed," he said.

Regional Affairs

Russia: Russian, Chechen Delegations Meet South of Groznyy

LD0307125196 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1222 GMT 3 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] NOVY ATAGI, July 3 (Interfax) — Negotiations began Wednesday in the small town of Novyy Atagi south of Groznyy between Chechen separatists and the Russian state commission on regulating the Chechen situation and armed opposition.

Interfax's correspondent in the town said the federal delegation comprises leader Vyacheslav Mikhailov, his deputy Sergey Stepashin, commander of armed forces in the North Caucasus Military Region Gen. Col. Anatoliy Kvashnin, Duma deputy General Nikolay Bezborodov, and authorized representative of the Russian government in Chechnya Nikolay Fedosov.

The delegation from the armed opposition comprises Khozhakhmed Yarikhanov at its head, Minister of Internal Affairs of the opposition government Kazbek Makhashev, and field commanders Akhmed Zakayev and Momadi Saidayev.

The source told Interfax the delegations are currently exchanging views on the situation in the republic and will soon start to discuss ways to implement the Moscow and Nazran agreements.

Russia: Chechens Demand To Talk to 'Higher-Level' Officials

AU0307143096 Paris AFP in English 1418 GMT 3 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Southern Chechnya, Russia, July 3 (AFP) — Chechen negotiators refused to resume peace negotiations set for Wednesday [3 July], demanding talks instead with a higher-level Russian delegation.

The current Russian delegation headed by Nationalities Minister Vyacheslav Mikhailov "doesn't have the power to stop the war," Chechen spokesman Movladi Udugov said, reading from a communique by the Chechen rebel "government."

"The delegation either should be changed or given full powers," it added.

The separatists are awaiting a response from the Russian government, and "as long as one is not forthcoming, the negotiations will not resume," Udugov said.

Chechen leader Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev signed a cease-fire agreement in Moscow on May 27 after meeting Russian President Boris Yeltsin, followed in early June by an accord for troop withdrawals and a plan for further talks on implementing the agreement.

These negotiations have still not been held.

Meanwhile in Bern on Wednesday, the head of OSCE [Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe] mission in Chechnya said he was optimistic the Chechen peace progress would pick up speed after the Russian elections.

Both sides have the will to continue talks, and they should show a greater determination to reach a solution once the poll is over, said Tim Guldimann of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which oversees the Chechen peace process.

A runoff vote was under way Wednesday between President Boris Yeltsin and his Communist challenger Gennady Zyuganov.

Russian troops invaded Chechnya in December 1994 to crush the separatist movement, sparking a war that has claimed 40,000 mostly civilian lives.

Russia: Delegation Fails To Make Headway at Talks in Chechnya

LD0407154196 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1531 GMT 4 Jul 96

[By Nikolay Zagnoyko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNYY, July 4 (Itar-Tass) — Members of Russian delegation to peace talks with Chechnya, including chairman of the delegation, Russian Minister for Nationalities Vyacheslav Mikhaylov, Chairman of the Duma Committee for Affairs of Nationalities Vladimir Zorin and senior secretary of the Commission for Chechen Settlement Sergey Stepashin have left Chechnya for Moscow today. The Russian delegation has failed to make any tangible progress at the talks with Chechen separatists.

Mikhaylov had twice met chief of staff of separatists' armed formations Aslan Maskhadov. Consultations were held several times at the level of working groups, but nevertheless, no tangible progress in the process of settlement has been made. The Russian side accounts for the slow headway at the talks, saying that the Chechen armed opposition is not prepared yet to fulfill the Moscow agreements of May 27 envisaging the withdrawal of federal troops from Chechnya, liquidation of block-posts and disarmament of illegal armed formations.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

All these commitments are in jeopardy of acquiring a unilateral character. The 245th federal motor-rifle regiment has been withdrawn from Chechnya to the Nizhniy Novgorod region. However, in contravention of the agreement on an exchange of prisoners of war 19 servicemen from the 245th regiment captivated by Chechen militants have not been released. On Wednesday, Commander of the North- Caucasian military district Colonel-General Anatoliy Kvashnin declared that the pullout of the 166th brigade and the 324th motor-rifle regiment would begin this month. However, separatists' armed formations are not only reluctant to lay down arms, but continue shelling positions of federal troops.

Upon arrival in Moscow Vladimir Zorin told Itar-Tass that "at the talks on Chechen settlement we had been painfully, but irrevocably moving towards peace." In his opinion, "leaders of Chechen separatists made an erroneous conclusion that we have begun talks only because they were necessary in the interests of the elections. However, this is not true," Zorin said.

He expressed the opinion that a proposal made by the separatists that the process of their disarmament begin a month after the troops were withdrawn from Chechnya was unacceptable for the Russian delegation.

Russia: Two Brigades Set for Withdrawal From Chechnya in Jul

LD0307182996 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 3 Jul 96

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The delegations of the federal center and the armed opposition met in the village of Novyye Atagi, southern Chechnya today. Aleksey Zotov, our special correspondent, sent in this report on the talks.

[Zotov] The day of elections in Chechnya was nearly spoilt as the meeting between the Vyacheslav Mikhaylov-led state commission for settling the Chechen crisis and the delegation of Chechen separatists almost failed to take place.

[Begin Mikhaylov recording] A statement on the alleged danger we were exposed to here was made in the morning. I met Mr. Guldimann's deputy and he confirmed, quoting Movladi Udugov [opposition spokesman], that there was a direct instruction banning the commission from here, therefore no meeting would take place. [end recording]

[Zotov] But the meeting did take place after all. Although to all appearances it did not justify the hopes that both sides had pinned on it, there was certain progress on the issue of prisoner exchange. The main thing is that the sides agreed to continue cooperation.

A statement by Anatoliy Kvashnin, commander of the North Caucasian military district, sounded as an appropriate conclusion.

[Begin Kvashnin recording] I am stating officially that the 166th brigade will be withdrawn this month. I am saying this officially. If we have enough time, since this operation involves certain difficulties, also the 324th regiment will be withdrawn. Even if some groups wanted to continue the war or the conflict, peace will come to this land anyway because the people wants it.

[Zotov] On the 10th, and the last day of his visit Mikhaylov seemed to be as optimistic as ever.

[Begin Mikhaylov recording] Well, I am even more convinced that this conflict must be wound up as soon as possible. All chances should be given to peace and calm. [end recording]

Economic Issues

Russia: No 'Instant Improvement' in Economy To Follow Election

MM0307134096 Moscow FINANSOVYYE IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 96 p i

[Article by Yevgeniy Vasilchuk: "Financial Markets Welcome Signs of Approaching Stability"]

[FBIS Translated Text] No matter what the result of the presidential election, there is no reason to expect an instant improvement of the economic situation. There will not be a rapid influx of investments into production. It will take some time before the economic policy and personnel lineup of the future government become clear, predictable, and stable. And if that does nothappen the atmosphere in the Russian economy will surely continue to resemble amad house.

But changes for the better are in evidence now. And there are grounds for taking an optimistic view of the future. The markets are welcoming the strengthening trend toward political stability. The corporate securities markethas emerged from its coma and large-scale Russian capital is at last keen to become a player in it. The state bond market has become more manageable and balanced. The construction of the government financial pyramid is now proceeding more cautiously. After several months of blatant connivance the IMFand other financial organizations have begun to take a cautious stance toward Russia. This was indirectly confirmed by the meeting of the leaders of the topindustrial states in Lyon. The Paris Club did not open its doors wide to Russia invitingly. Not that Russia needs that very much.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The sharp fall in the cost of short-term interbank credit last week can scarcely be considered a coincidence. Even though it would take an enormous leap of the imagination to view the interbank credit market as a proper market,short-term fluctuations there are, nevertheless, indicative: After a long period of financial dearth there is at last some money available in the bankingsystem.

However, there is still a long way to go before confidence in the banking system is restored. The situation at some large banks is beiag kept under control solely thanks to the Bank of Russia's efforts. A far greater number ofbanks are clearly in for further shocks in two or three months' time when the pressure on bank margins is really felt.

Before then — within two to three weeks of the election — the government and the Central Bank will have to embark on a daring if very risky macroeconomic policy maneuver. The relaxation of credit-monetary restrictions will have to be combined with an inevitable retreat from pre-election budget excesses. The first step could be a fairly substantial cut in the Bank of Russia refinancing rate. Given the formal character of this measure it is probable that a range of other ways of reducing credit-monetary restrictions will be used. The Central Bank has already reacted in the short term at least and the banking system is not threatened with a liquidity crisis now.

The situation in the tax-budget sphere seems several orders of magnitude more difficult to resolve. The specifics of the actual mechanism of taxation in a democratic society are such that as soon as you ease the fiscal burden, the only way to increase the tax burden quickly is by some semi-supernatural means. And the Russian treasury does not yet have a staff of magicians and wizards.

The dynamics of the macroeconomic indicators in the first half of 1996 clearly state the opposite. The taxable base is shrinking rapidly. All available and reasonable incentives to economic growth must be activated as soon as possible. A clumsy financial squeeze in the second half year would be a stab in the back for the enfeebled national economy and state finances.

On the other hand, the pre-election rejigging of budget expenditure in favorof wages and "hot" social expenditure items does not mean that a post-election funding of "frozen" items of expenditure will not be inevitable. Talk of a sharp reduction in state spending without a radical reorganization of Russia's tax and budget system is highly redolent of irresponsible blather. And when expressed by people with power such talk poses a direct threat to the country'snational security.

Unfortunately, the 1996 budget will not be able to obtain significant unplanned inflation-related revenue. Inflation in June was 1.2-1.4 percent. Acertain increase in inflation can be expected in the future. However, no government will allow the resurgence of panic expectations about inflation and a rise in consumer prices of 5-10 percent a month.

The inertia resulting from the decline in industrial production (4 percent compared with the corresponding period last year) and the reduction in real GDP(3 percent) that has built up in the first half of the year is hardly going to be overcome before the end of the year. The clear discrepancy between the actual picture and the projection for the main macroeconomic indicators included in the 1996 budget law makes an adjustment of the parameters of the budget itself inevitable. And if the parliamentary opposition's leader loses the presidential election, this will be a trump card in the opposition's hand.

Russia: Election Result's Economic Implications Viewed

MM0407165296 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 2

[Article by Economist Mikhail Delyagin: "No Cause for Euphoria. The Country's Economy Is Entering the 'Danger Zone' and the President Must Be Aware of This"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yeltsin's victory cannot and must not obscure the most acute problems that have built up in the economy.

The decline in production which resumed in October last year reached 6 percent in May 1996, even though a year earlier it had been successfully halted for the first time and growth (of 1 percent) had even been achieved. The slump in investments, which fell steadily from May through October 1995 (from 22 percent to 1 percent) had already been standing at 10 percent in January-April and had increased to 19 percent in May. Even the steady increase in exports and the commissioning of housing, regarded by various groups of specialists as the "locomotives" of the Russian economy, fell in May by 0.6 percent and 4 percent respectively.

The federal budget's tax revenues fell in January-April to 7.5 percent of GDP compared with 11.0 percent in January-April last year. As a result the budget deficit rose steadily and reached the record level of 7.1 percent of GDP in April.

But the main factor is the living standard. The population's real incomes, which rose by 12 percent during February-April, fell by 5 percent in May. As a result

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

they finished 4 percent below the level of May 1995 and 9 percent below the level of May 1994.

However, May is by no means the worst month of the year. In late summer to early fall individual aspects of the crisis will develop into a tight knot of problems. In addition to the worsening of the situation due to inertia and the shortage of money in the budget, the desire of certain monopolies to achieve their inflationary interests, which were put on ice for the long duration of the elections, will take its toll.

The worsening of the situation is due at base to a kind of economic dystrophy, the total absence of money only partly caused by a fear of the Communists. The main reason is the excessively tough financial policy which exceeded the economy's ability to adapt. It achieved its aim — the curbing of inflation — but in order to resolve today's tasks of ensuring steady economic growth the restriction of money supply alone is about as much use as a slippery rope.

It has become the done thing to pin your hopes on the "golden rain of foreign investments." It will indeed pour on Russia in the weeks immediately ahead but it will be golden, that is, in the form of foreign currency. The currency invested will be exchanged for rubles which will force the state to increase the supply of the latter (otherwise the dollar exchange rate will fall sharply taking the profitability of export along with it).

The increase in the ruble supply will weaken the crisis phenomena. However, its scale could make it difficult to fulfill Russia's agreement with the IMF. In addition, it will inevitably be inflationary in character. After all the successes achieved in suppressing inflation (in June it is expected to be 1.2 percent) must not obscure the extreme strain of the plan targets. The aim in 1996 is to achieve a fundamental breakthrough in the trends of the past years: Whereas in 1992 prices rose by an average of 31.2 percent a month, in 1993 by 20.1 percent, in 1994 by 10.2 percent, and in 1995 by 7.2 percent (in other words, the rate of price growth never fell by more than one-half), in 1996 the aim is to reduce inflation by a factor of 3.8 — to 1.9 percent!

Of course progress along this path requires vigorous resistance to all the negative trends listed above.

The main route for Russia's post-election development that emerges from the official statements is to resolve three inextricably linked tasks at the same time: To restore order, reverse the excessively tough financial policy, and stimulate investments.

The long-term rejection of a sensible alleviation of financial policy merely increases social tension and revives the inflationary old guard campaigning for the state to abandon control of the financial sphere, the resumption of the use of centralized credit to fund the budget deficit, and an increase in inflation to 8-10 percent a month. It goes without saying that if this happens no stimulation of investments will help Russia.

The repudiation of both a clearly inflationary and a clearly monetarist path inspires the confidence that the political victory will be augmented by an economic victory.

Russia: Market Traders 'Feeling Good' About Yeltsin Win

MM0507085596 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Jul 96 p 2

[Report by Dmitriy Dokuchayev: "Animation on the Exchanges. Specialists Predict Stabilization of the Markets"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Stock exchange trading is a sufficiently subtle and precise "thermometer" for measuring the socioeconomic "temperature" of society. What does this "thermometer" show on the first day of Boris Yeltsin's second presidency?

Igor Doronin, the Moscow International Currency Exchange's adviser on current trends:

"Currency trading has already finished for today. The dollar exchange rate has not changed by comparison with 2 July and stands at 5,119 rubles. The situation as regards the German mark and other less indicative currencies is also stable. The volume of transactions has not changed; supply and demand are level. Trading in state treasury bonds is yet to begin, but I think that the positive tendencies connected with reduced profitability that emerged after the first round of the presidential election will now be firmly established. As for the prospects of the foreign exchange and financial market as a whole, I suggest that following the election it will be characterized by greater stability and predictability."

Igor Shirokov, chief of the Central Stock Exchange's Department of Methodology and Development:

"Judging by the fact that new big money arrived on the exchange today, we are seeing investment companies and banks react to the election result. Obviously we expect a large intake of money in the future, because many traders have been unable to direct the flow of finance into the exchange for purely technical reasons. We expect a growth in the volume of trading."

Natalya Belkina, chief of the Russian Exchange's Analysis Department:

"Brokers are feeling good today, and animation reigns on the exchange. The election result turned out by

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

and large as expected, so no wholesale upheavals are foreseen."

Russia: Post-Election Economic Problems Considered

MM0507100096 Moscow TRUD-7 in Russian 5-11 Jul 96 p 2

[Article by Pavel Bunich, chairman of the Russian State Duma Committee for Ownership, Privatization, and Economic Activity: "Fairy Tales Are Easily Told...."]

[FBIS Translated Text] The new president has inherited a new and difficult baseline in the economy, essentially a new stage of economic development. But social promises have been made. And they must be honored. But how will they be financed?

The situation as regards expenditures is tough. In order to reduce them, it is not enough to make the traditional decisions cutting the state apparatus costs. It is too early to cut expenditures on defense and agriculture just before they are reformed. Following the Army reform, expenditure on it will evidently even increase. Compared with today, centralized investments should not be cut but should be significantly increased since, without them, it would be extremely difficult to boost the promising enterprises which are at present unable to become self-financing. Funds will also be needed for the financial rescue of enterprises whose closure would be shortsighted, as well as for the creation of new jobs. To put it briefly, there is not much room for savings within the framework of the adopted budget.

On the contrary, a Mont Blanc of new expenditures is in sight. At long last wages in the budget-funded sector are being paid and pension commitments are being honored, although neither of these would be possible to achieve without fulfilling "plans" as regards taxes and pension fund contributions. Thus, new expenditures have to be met with the same revenue as before. There has been movement as regards compensation for deposits which have been devalued since early 1992. All people aged 75 years or older will receive compensation already this year, while people above the age of 70 years or maybe even 65 years will receive them next year. Student grants have been increased. Additional targeted finance has been promised to a series of regions, enterprises, and scientific and cultural establishments. What is to be done? Irresponsible advisers believe that these promises can be forgotten after the election. They are hoping that if inflation is kept low, this will compensate for the nonpayment of earned incomes.

Generally speaking, people nowadays are basically complaining not about prices, not even about the size of wages and pensions, but about the fact that it is impossible to receive them on time. The situation as regards inflation is calmer. But this offers nothing promising unless wages are paid. This outrage cannot be justified by any other favorable results in other spheres. It is time to abandon the impression that low inflation is the supreme virtue. Thank God, people seem to have come to their senses. They have adopted the broader approach — perceiving the priority due to man not in words (as they did for decades) but in deeds (something they did not do). All proposals aimed at moving man from the end of the waiting line to the top of the line as regards distribution of funds were branded as populism, as a cheap attempt to gain prestige among the population. In the West, however, this is seen not as populism but as the only realistic policy combining "pure" economics and the people's interests. If someone somewhere did manage to forget this even for a short while, he ended up in the political wilderness. For example, agriculture in France and northern Finland is economically loss-making, but it exists because it is supported by the state not for the sake of economic growth "curves" but for the sake of people employed in this sphere.

We, on the other hand, are learning everything for the first time, like children. For the first time — do you recall? — we held democratic elections for the Duma and the president. For the first time we slackened for a long time after them. For the first time we realized that this is not the way to behave. For the first time we started chasing the voter, remembering that he exists. For the first time we revised policy on the march, putting emphasis on its social aspects. For the first time we took the social-democratic path.

And for a long time to come, I believe. It is impossible to deceive the population when it comes to politics. They remember all the promises, they intently monitor the way promises are kept, they get excited when promises are not kept, they swell the wave of opposition, they change the authorities or sweep them out of power. "Good is evil when it does not last," as the ancients used to say. Once something has been given, the situation is felt more acutely than if nothing had been given.

Meanwhile, the financial tension has been extremely high. Tax collection will have to be increased by a factor of at least 1.5. The main aim in this process should be to reduce tax benefits, although some people, on the contrary, demand greater benefits and specifically deem it desirable to reduce value-added tax and import duties on imported equipment which provides backup for new technologies. In this case lagging sectors can be boosted not so much by banning the imports of foreign goods but by putting these sectors on a modern footing. If tax

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

collection is improved, it would be realistic to lower the tax threshold, which has been a long-held dream.

Where are we to find the funds to pursue the new course on which we have embarked? Are there any funds? I think that there are. This is where these funds are to be found. It is a question of "restructuring" — to use the fashionable word — the promises. First, there is still time to issue state treasury bonds and other securities, including Federal Loan bonds. Second, it would be expedient to place them more widely with foreign purchasers so as to avoid making them too profitable and burdensome for the future due to a shortage of domestic money demand, and to make sure that they do not devastate the investments market. Given the absence of political risks, foreign purchasers will gladly invest their money in state treasury bonds, accepting lower returns since they cannot get even these [lower] rates in their own countries. Moreover, as a rule they grant us their loans at rates which are higher than in their countries. Third, it can be assumed that new foreign loans will be received. Fourth, Russia has accumulated quite sound foreign currency reserves (something like $13-14 billion), and a partial sale of these would supplement budget revenues. Fifth, the economy is beginning to pick up and a growth of 1-3 percent by year's end cannot be ruled out. The transition from decline to growth is tantamount to replacing revenue cutbacks with higher revenues. Sixth, foreign investment will beat a path to our country. There will also be a switch from decline to growth in terms of domestic investments. Therefore, we could expect higher tax revenues if not this year, then in the years to come.

But fairy tales are easily told. It is unbelievably difficult to make fairy tales come true. But this should not lead to capitulationist conclusions. The opposite conclusions must be drawn. As a popular booklet in the past had it, "struggle and seek" (money). But the follow-on — "find and do not yield" — should not be taken seriously because it is not altogether clear who and why is insisting on "yielding," why it is necessary to struggle incessantly....

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

International Affairs

Ukraine: Kuchma Congratulates Yeltsin on Election Victory

LD0407170296 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1314 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, July 4 (Interax-Ukraine) — President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine has addressed a telegram to Boris Yeltsin on the occasion of his election as President of the Russian Federation for a new term.

"On behalf of the entire Ukrainian people and on behalf of myself I congratulate You on this well-deserved and convincing victory," the telegram says.

The telegram also notes that the "election returns have demonstrated for the whole world to see the adherence of the Russians to the democratic ideals, to the course of reforms and social stability pursued by you."

"Your success is a weighty contribution to strengthening international security in this period of world history, which is decisive in many respects," says the message from the Ukrainian President.

Leonid Kuchma expressed conviction that "we will succeed by joint efforts to resolve the outstanding problems and ensure a fruitful development of relations, traditional friendship between our states and peoples on the basis of equality and mutual benefit."

In this respect, the telegram underscores, "it is hard to overestimate the significance of Your visit to Ukraine."

"Availing myself of this opportunity I wholeheartedly wish you, Esteemed Boris Nikolayevich, good health and further successes in Your important activities as a statesman, and peace, happiness and prosperity to the Russian people," says the telegram addressed to the President of Russia.

Ukraine: Kuchma Welcomes Yeltsin's Win, Views Russian Relations

LD0407142396 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1230 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev (UNIAN) — "Russia has chosen the democratic path and has rejected the past," Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma said during a meeting with the statehood group of deputies. He stressed that Yeltsin's victory became possible "precisely because of Russia's democratic forces."

Leonid Kuchma assessed Yeltsin's reelection as an event on which "the development of Ukraine and of the whole world depends." At the same time, the Ukrainian President said that the results of the elections in Russia do not give any grounds for Ukraine to drop its guard, but on the contrary, all the political forces and the state "should consider the fact that the main problems lie ahead. The policies of our great neighbor will not be softer but more ferocious," he said. He stressed that "we will proceed from our national interests" in our relations with Russia. The president said that the new Constitution is a firm foundation and a guarantor that Ukraine will not deviate from current policy.

Speaking about the internal situation, the president said that the main task of the executive is to resolve the country's economic problems. He stressed the responsibility of all directors of state enterprises and organizations. "Many of them only think about themselves and not about the state," he noted. The president said he had instructed sectoral ministers to take personal control over the actions of every director regarding the payment of wages. Kuchma warned that "unpopular decisions will be taken," in particular concerning the abolition of a number of benefits. "It is unacceptable that about 17 million people in Ukraine are in receipt of benefits," he stressed.

Ukraine: Kuchma Wary on Future Relations With Russia

LD0407210796 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1534 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, Jul 4 (Interfax - Ukraine) — Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma described Boris Yeltsin's victory at the presidential elections in Russia as a "signal event".

"Russia is through with her past," L. Kuchma said in Kiev on Thursday at a meeting with representatives of the parliamentary faction "Derzhavnist" (statehood).

In L. Kuchma's opinion, the presidential elections were "the final and decisive battle of the democratic forces represented by President Yeltsin".

He stressed that "the developments in Ukraine, as well as the world over" depend on the election returns in Russia.

Having emphasized that "everyone proceeds from one's own national interests," L. Kuchma expressed the opinion that "the policy of our great neighbor will rather get tougher than milder".

According to him, the outcome of the presidential elections in the Russian Federation "gives us no ground to relax; just on the contrary, they make all the political forces think".

At the same time, President Kuchma underlined that Ukraine "has a firm foundation — the Constitution, and confidence of irreversibility of her course".

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

In this connection, the President pointed out the importance of the fact that Ukraine had already started regular repayment of debts to Russia. "If we go around with our hands stretched out for alms, we are going to get a corresponding attitude," L. Kuchma noted.

Ukraine: Deputy Prime Minister Views Yeltsin Victory

LD0407170596 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1314 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, July 4 (Interfax - Ukraine) — Ukraine's Vice-Premier in charge of political and legal issues Oleksandr Yemets has described Boris Yeltsin's victory in the presidential race in Russia "as a major step towards the end of the communist era in Europe."

"This signals the loss of the last communist hope for the restoration of the Soviet Union," he told Interfax - Ukraine on Thursday.

The Vice-Premier evaluated Yeltsin's victory "as a guarantee of a no simple, yet consistent development of relations between Russia and Ukraine as an independent state."

According to preliminary reports, in the July 3 run-off elections of the Russian President, Boris Yeltsin gained 53.55 per cent of the vote, while his communist rival Gennadiy Zyuganov — 40.55 per cent.

Ukraine: Public Figures View Russian Election Outcome

LD0407114696 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1012 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] KIEV, July 4 (Interfax-Ukraine) - The leader of the People's Movement of Ukraine, parliament member Vyacheslav Chornovil, told Interfax-Ukraine that his movement had correctly predicted the results of the runoff in the Russian presidential elections Wednesday.

"We foresaw the results of the second round of presidential elections in Russia, since the entire world was interested in Yeltsin's victory," he said.

Yeltsin won his victory "thanks to his union with [Russian Security Council Secretary Aleksandr] Lebed," he said.

A victory for Communist Party leader Gennadiy Zyuganov would have been "the worst outcome" for Ukraine, Chornovil said.

"Having lost the battle for the constitution," Ukrainian Communists were relying only on a Communist victory in Russia, which would have "enlivened their anti-government activity," Chornovil said.

However "the gaining of stronger positions by Lebed" might lead to a tilt "toward a pro-imperial stand" in Russia," Chornovil said.

The leader of the Ukrainian Communist Party, parliament deputy Piotr Simonenko, declined to comment on the results of the second round of presidential elections in Russia.

The election campaign in Russia "can only be described as immoral," he told Interfax-Ukraine. "In the election campaign there was no competition between ideals - there was only malicious propaganda against the history of their own nation," he said.

Simonenko said the re-election of Yeltsin may lead to "negative consequences," which will emerge by the end of this year. During the election campaign numerous promises were made, which "will not be kept," he explained.

Former Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk says that "changes in relations between Ukraine and Russia" must not be expected after the presidential elections in Russia.

It is necessary to be prepared for the fact that hopes for privileges in bilateral economic relations "will not be realized," Kravchuk told Interfax-Ukraine on Thursday.

Kravchuk believes that "some pressure" can be exerted in resolving the problem of the Black Sea Fleet.

Boris Oleinik, chairman of the Parliamentary Commission for Foreign Affairs and Relations with Commonwealth of Independent States countries, told Interfax-Ukraine: "We must not pay attention to the results of elections in Russia, since we are a sovereign state."

SEVASTOPOL, July 4 (Interfax-Ukraine) - Boris Yeltsin's victory in the Russian presidential elections will be "a very important factor in resolving the Black Sea Fleet problem," said Head of the Sevastopol city administration Viktor Semenov.

"The last uncertainty" in the delayed solution to this issue has been removed with Yeltsin's re-election, he told Interfax-Ukraine on Thursday.

Semenov said he was confident that "the Russian and Ukrainian presidents, whose opinions coincide in principle, will solve this problem at last."

Yeltsin's victory will also exert a "favorable influence" on the development of Ukrainian-Russian relations, Semenov said.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Ukraine: Rukh Leader: Yeltsin's Victory 'Lesser Evil'

LD0407204496 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1631 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, July 4 (Interfax - Ukraine) — Popular Rukh leader Vyacheslav Chornovil has described Yeltsin's victory in the presidential elections in Russia as "lesser evil to Ukraine."

Chornovil predicted that pressure would be brought to bear on Ukraine, which is seen, as he believes, from the latest statements made by Russia's Security Council Chairman Alexander Lebed.

However, speaking in an IF-U [INTERFAX-UKRAINE] interview Thursday, he warned against "expecting something good from the Yeltsin-Lebed tandem."

In this context he expressed the view that should Communists have won in Russia, "they would have provided strong support for their 'fifth column' in Ukraine".

The new Ukrainian Constitution contains clear-cut provisions, banning propaganda against the Ukrainian state, Chornovil recalled.

Speaking in this connection about the Ukrainian Communist Party, Popular Rukh leader said that "if that structure does not change its anti-state attitude, the question may be raised of its right to exist."

Ukraine: Sevastopol Head Says Yeltsin Win Will Help BSF Settlement

LD0407204196 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1632 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sevastopol, July 4 (Interfax-Ukraine) — Boris Yeltsin's victory in the presidential elections in Russia "will be an important factor for the settlement of the Black Sea Fleet [BSF] problem", Viktor Semyonov, Head of the Sevastopol City Administration, believes.

B. Yeltsin's election for a new term "signals the end of uncertainty" in the dragged out settlement of this issue, V. Semenov said in an Interfax - Ukraine interview on Thursday.

He expressed the opinion that "the Russian and Ukrainian Presidents, who share, in principle, a common view, will ultimately settle the issue".

Yeltsin's victory "will have a favorable impact" on the development of Ukrainian-Russian relations, V. Semyonov believes.

The presidential election returns in the BSF testify to the fact that "not only civilians but also army men strive for certainty". "The BSF naval servicemen spoke out for the continuation of Yeltsin's policy", Mr Semyonov said.

According to the preliminary figures, 69% of the servicemen and 60% of civilians supported Yeltsin at 16 polling stations of the BSF.

Ukraine: Kuchma on European Integration, Cooperation With NATO

LD0507100996 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 0855 GMT 5 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev — "Ukraine's policies are predictable. The country has chosen a strategic course, which it is steadfastly adhering to. This is integration into European structures and broader cooperation with NATO," Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma said during his meeting with Austria's Defense Minister Werner Fasslabend.

Austria's defense minister noted that the EU and NATO are organizations through which European countries should stabilize the situation in Europe by mutual integration. "There is no alternative to this development," he stressed.

During the meeting, Leonid Kuchma reiterated that as far as relations with Russia are concerned, Ukraine will proceed from its national interests. The president expressed satisfaction with Boris Yeltsin's reelection. "We will consider that Russia is our partner rather than the other way round," he added.

Ukraine: Udovenko Criticized for Speaking 'Inaccurately' About NATO

WS0407074296 Lvov INFOBANK in English 0646 GMT 4 Jul 96

["News Service"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, 3 July — During the briefing at President's Administration Secretary of the National Security Council of Ukraine Volodymyr Horbulin said that Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko during his visit to Poland spoke "excessively sharp and stylistically inaccurately". Before Ukrainian President's visit to Poland Hennadiy Udovenko said in Warsaw that Ukraine would seek the associated member status in NATO.

Volodymyr Horbulin said that the draft concept of national security for Ukraine will change despite the fact that is approved in first round of parliamentary hearings. There is an agreement to this effect between National

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Security Council and Parliamentary commission on defense issues.

In Horbulin's opinion when building relations between Ukraine and Russia it should be taken into account that Moscow has "finally chosen two postulates for its strategy — national idea and possibility of economic expansion into near-abroad."

National Affairs

Ukraine: Vice Premier Comments on Resignation, New Government

WS0507072896 Lvov INFOBANK in English 0615 GMT 5 Jul 96

["News Service"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev — On July 4 Vice Prime Minister on legal issues Olexandr Yemets handed in his resignation to President Kuchma. Speaking at the press conference, he said it was his moral duty to resign his government position in the light of the recently passed law prohibiting members of parliament to combine their responsibilities with jobs in the government.

In an interview to the INFOBANK, Oleksander Yemets said he plans to concentrate on work in Parliament. He does not exclude the possibility of joining the new government. As stipulated by the Constitution, the formation of the new government is to begin in late September.

Oleksander Yemets also said President Kuchma is actively consulting with his advisors on who is to become a new Prime Minister. In O. Yemets's view, the President would have an easier job forming a new Cabinet if all the members of the present Cabinet resigned. Mr. Yemets believes the incumbent Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko is the best bet for a head of Government.

Ukraine: Justice Minister Resigns Parliament Seat, Remains in Office

LD0407114296 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 0830 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev (UNIAN) — On 4 July, Supreme Council Chairman Oleksandr Moroz read a statement from Ukraine's Justice Minister Serhiy Holovatyy on the withdrawal of the latter's deputy's mandate in connection with his carrying out the duties of a minister. As is known, the Ukrainian president refused to accept Holovatyy's resignation, which he had submitted to the president.

Oleksandr Moroz stressed that Holovatyy's decision was an example of his attitude to the Ukrainian constitution. In his speech, Serhiy Holovatyy voiced the hope that the Justice Ministry and the Supreme Council would work together on the implementation of the constitution and on the adoption of the Ukrainian Civil Code.

Ukraine: 60 Mines Being Struck Over Wage Arrears

WS0507072996 Lvov INFOBANK in English 0615 GMT 5 Jul 96

["News Service"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Donetsk — As informed by the Coal Industry Central trade union committee, 60 mines are on strike on July 4 (out of these, 32 in Donetsk oblast, 26 in Lugansk oblast). According to the Coal Ministry reports, fewer mines are on strike on July 4 — 45 mines (26 in Donetsk oblast and 19 in Lugansk oblast). In Donetsk, miners continue for the second day to block the main streets and the airport highway. The strikers demand payments of wages arrears.

Miners' trade union officials claim that wages at some mines have not been paid since October of 1995. Unless their wages are paid by July 8, miners in Lvov and Volyn oblasts threaten to block the railroads to Poland and Kiev.

The advisor of Coal Industry Central trade union committee Myhaylo Malandin told the INFOBANK correspondent the trade union has not announced an official strike. Only members of the Independent miners trade union were still officially on strike July 4. The committee called on miners to take a decision whether to resume the general strike which ended in February.

If the government fails to take any measures, Myhaylo Malandin believes spontaneous strikes will go on, even if not supported by the trade unions, and by the middle of next week 150 mines may be on strike.

Ukraine: Workers Threaten 'Autumn Offensive' of Mass Strikes

LD0307202096 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1410 GMT 3 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev — About 300 representatives of the all-Ukrainian Union of Workers [AUUW] picketed the Cabinet of Ministers on 3 July. Workers from 50 enterprises from 21 Ukrainian cities, in particular, Kremenchug, Sumy, Dnepropetrovsk, Kharkov and Odessa, gathered under slogans such as "Away with the rule of pillagers" and "Give us our wages and work."

Vasyl Arestov, the coordinator of the left-wing bloc in Kiev, said that the workers were demanding that the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

government honor its promises to the people — to pay immediately workers' wages and to halt the destruction of domestic production.

"The workers are ready to oppose actively the rule of pillagers, and everywhere the spontaneous protests of the masses are growing," AUUW Chairman Oleksandr Bondarchuk said. In his words, the duty of the union was to help workers to unite in order to banish from power those "who set in motion the state mechanism for the purposeful destruction of Ukraine's productive forces." With this aim in mind, the AUUW has begun preparations for the "workers' autumn offensive", which, in Bondarchuk's words, is expected to begin in October with mass strikes at all Ukrainian enterprises.

Ukraine: Tatar Leaders Voice Resentment at Kiev's 'Open Neglect'

WS0407082596 Kiev UKRINFORM in English 0646 GMT 4 Jul 96

[From the "Current Events" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] As UKRINFORM's correspondent in Simferopol, Crimea's capital, reported, on Tuesday, July 2 night Mustafa Dzhemilev and Refat Chubarov, the newly re-elected Crimean Tatar Mejlis Chairman and deputy chairperson, held a press conference there in the wake of the 3d Kurultai (Congress) of the Crimean Tartar people.

Sizing up the Congress Mr. Chubarov noted that it had frustrated certain political forces' expectations for a rift, within the Mejlis (Assembly).

As Mr. Chubarov said, the Congress proved its virtue having shown the delegates' ability to forectall the likely consequences of their actions.

According to the Mejlis deputy Chairman, Ukraine's top leaders have demonstrated of late a regrettable trend toward shirking the Crimean Tartar people's problems, particularly the one of citizenship, whch immediately involves over 120,000 people.

As Mr. Chubarov noted with resentment, official Kiev pretended to overlook the 3d Kurultai.

Naturally, he said, the delegates did not expect any top-placed Kievan official to turn up at the Crimean Tatar Congress, but they did expect the Ukrainian leaders at least to articulate their recognition of those problems which the Congress raised.

As Mr. Chubarov said, the fact that Kiev witnessed such an important event as was the adoption of the new Constitution of Ukraine at the time the 3d Kurultai was convened, could not justify this open neglect of the Crimean Tartars' formidable problems.

However, all these and other negative facts notwithstanding, the Crimean Tatars remain the sole pro-Ukrainian force in Crimea, according to Mejlis Chairman Mustafa Dzhemilev. As Mr. Dzhemilev said, they wll remain such a force further on, as vitally interested to see Ukraine a democratic and independent nation as soon as possible.

However, the central authority should display a more constructive stance on the Crimean Tartar problem, while rejecting any radical solutions.

Mr. Dzhemilev reiterated his support for Crimea's future status as that of a national-territorial autonomy within the Ukrainian State with due regard for the Crimean Tartar people's interests as Crimea's autochthonal populace.

Ukraine: Crimean Tatars See Future Within Ukrainian State

LD0307211696 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1549 GMT 3 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Simferopol, July 3 (Interfax - Ukraine) — The Crimean Tatars see their future within the "national territorial and autonomous structure" within the framework of the Ukrainian democratic state, Mustafa Jamilev, Crimean Tatars' Majles leader, told newsmen in Simferopol on Wednesday.

The Crimean Tatars "never took an anti-Ukrainian stand", he noted. The Tatars "are strongly against a change in Ukraine's outer borders", M. Jamilev said.

He also expressed hope that "the legal acts protecting rights of the Crimean Tatars" would be adopted by the Ukrainian Parliament. Speaking about the recognition of the Majles powers, M. Jamilev said that "it will depend upon matureness of the Ukrainian Parliament".

The Majles could be also legalized by a presidential decree, M. Jamilev added. "This issue will be examined soon", he said.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Belarus

Belarus: Lukashenka Interviewed on Russian Election Results

WS0407144096 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1300 GMT 4 Jul 96

[Interview with Belarusian President Alyaksandr Ryhoravich Lukashenka by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Correspondent] Alyaksandr Ryhoravich, yesterday presidential elections took place in Russia and now it is possible to say that official results will only register Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin's victory. What is your comment on these preliminary results? What can we conclude based on these results?

[Lukashenka] As regards presidential elections in Russia, first of all, I would like to say that thank God they are over, because it is a colossal burden not only for the Russian president — it is a very heavy burden. Please believe me I know this from our meeting in Brest. It is also a very heavy burden for society and Russia. The elections also were hard for us, because we, truth be told, are in close contact with the Russian Federation. It was also a difficult time for our economy, because the Russian market was frozen to our goods for some time and all of us had to wait. Therefore, first of all, it is good that it is all over and our economy can begin to operate at a normal rate.

Second, I proceed from what we have; therefore, I hail these results, because I think that Russian foreign policy will not change, particularly toward Belarus. Please agree that everything that was done in recent years in Belarus in the aspect of uniting the Slavic peoples, orienting our economy and our foreign policy, was done by me in collaboration with incumbent Russian President Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin.

As regards Yeltsin's victory, I did not doubt it, I am saying this absolutely sincerely, because in Brest [words indistinct] it was I who invited the Russian president there. As for maneuvering, waiting for what will take place, waiting for the runoff....[changes thought] I was sure that the elections would by all means end in the victory of the incumbent president. We held a meeting at such a high level [words indistinct], we held a meeting of heads of states of the Community of Sovereign Republics [SSR], we held a meeting of the SSR High Council and made appropriate decisions. All this shows that both of us were convinced that the elections would end normally. But perhaps you saw my stance: I did not make it possible to involve me in any way in this election process. [words indistinct] This was not my business. I remember how elections were conducted in Belarus, they made me suffer a lot at the time. I did not have to engage in any way in this election campaign and, by the way, this is what I did.

Today the elections are over, the Russian people have made their choice. I perceive this as a fact, as a genuine fact. I respect the choice of the Russian people, the choice of Russia, and I am sure that you will feel in the immediate future an impulse to cooperate; this exists between both our peoples and our states, because before the second round of elections, three days before the runoff, I and the Russian president coordinated on the [upcoming] visit to Belarus by such eminent politicians as Luzhkov, Stroyev, Yakovlev from St. Petersburg. This will not be a familiarization visit; you know, we have very good relations with them. It will be a visit during which we will discuss how our agreements are being implemented — you remember my visit to St. Petersburg and to Moscow — and what must be done today to preserve our cooperation. I primarily mean deliveries of our goods to Moscow, to St. Petersburg, and to the Russian Army, deliveries which used to exist in the times of the Soviet Union. In the immediate future, I believe that in the middle of July, or some time later, perhaps in the last weeks of ther month, most prominent Russian politicians will visit in order to agree on how we should move ahead — at this level — because everything has been specified in the political spectrum of the Russian Federation. Later, the Russian president will visit Belarus, we agreed upon this in Brest when [Yeltsin] was there. This will not be a one-day visit. As he proposed himself, he would like to spend two or three days, to tour of the country with me, and to visit enterprises. In fact we will go further than the Belarusian-Russian agreement which was signed by us on 2 April 1996.

I perceive the completed elections as a normal thing and I am satisfied that they have ended well for both the Russian and the Belarusian people.

[Correspondent] Will the reelection of Boris Nikolayevich affect, to any degree, the situation within the CIS and primarily the situation within the union of four republics?

[Lukashenka] If it affects the situation, it will only be a positive impact. It will lead to the strengthening of integration processes. Of course, much will depend on what kind of government will be chosen in Russia. But I think that new people will come [to the government]. By the way, their number will be quite small, because a month or two months ago, new people — such as Kaydannikov and Lobov — came, as well as many others. I do not think that Viktor Stepanovich Chernomyrdin will not be the prime minister. First of all, he proved to be

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

an eminent politician. You remember the Russian Duma elections, it was due to him that they were held. No one knows how they will end, but what was achieved was done by Chernomyrdin. He proved to be an outstanding manager. In addition, Chernomyrdin proved to be a reliable partner and a reliable person. He spent all the time with the Russian president. One could not but notice this. Hence, the most important issue now is what government will be nominated. I do not think that the [current] government will be subject to great changes. There is no need to dismantle the Russian government today, because it is a very difficult issue and why should today one change the government which is implementing reform and which will [word indistinct] help complete this reform. There was an obstacle — political mess [words indistinct] — today we do not have it, therefore, this government must be given an opportunity to work. Of course, as regards politicians, I think there will be some small changes. This is the Russian president's business. Excuse me, I have already expressed my opinion on the issue. This, however, will not affect in any way the political spectrum of mutual relations between the forces that are today present in the Russian Federation. Therefore, I assess the impact of the Russian elections on our mutual relations with Russia — both within the SSR and the quadrilateral union — only positively.

[Correspondent] Thank you.

Belarus: Lukashenka Welcomes Yeltsin Presidential Victory

LD0407170196 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1306 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MINSK, July 4 (Interfax-West) — Belarusian President Lukashenka says he never had any doubts about Russian President Boris Yeltsin's chances of re-election. In an INTERFAX interview on Thursday [4 July], he said he welcomed the voting results even more because Russia's foreign policy would remain unchanged, particularly in Moscow-Minsk relations.

"All that has been done in recent time in an effort to reunify Slav peoples and bring Belarus and Russia together was done together with Boris Yeltsin," he said.

The president said since the two countries' economies were closely linked, the Russian election had a negative impact on the Belarusian economy. "The Russian market has for some time been frozen for Belarusian exports: Everyone was awaiting the voting results," he said.

Lukashenka is sure the economy can work calmly now that the people of Russia have made their choice.

He also stressed that Yeltsin's re-election will invariably lead to further integration by former Soviet republics.

"Much will now depend on the composition of the new Russian government," the president said.

He has no doubts that the new cabinet will be led by current Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, describing the latter "as a leading politician and skillful economic manager, as well as a reliable partner and a decent man standing by the Russian president at the most difficult moments."

Lukashenka said he and Yeltsin had agreed three days before the second round of Russia's presidential poll that key Russian politicians including Federation Council Chairman Yegor Stroyev, Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov and St. Petersburg Governor Vladimir Yakovlev would come on a visit to Minsk later this month.

"This will not be a routine visit but a business trip to discuss how the previous agreements are being implemented, including Belarusian food exports to Moscow and St. Petersburg," Lukashenka said.

Belarus: Reactions to Russian Election Outcome

LD0407120196 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1100 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MINSK, July 4 (Interfax-West) - Chairman of the Belarusian Supreme Soviet Semen Sharetskiy told Interfax Thursday the Russian people's choice of Boris Yeltsin for president showed a decision to move onward.

The Russians voted "for a step forward rather than a leap back into the past," he said.

"Knowing the preliminary election results," Sharetsky said, "I have stopped worrying about Russia," adding "in my heart I was always convinced of the rightness and victory of democracy in our neighbor and brother nation." Sharetsky also said he was sure integration agreements between Belarus and Russia would mature successfully.

Sharetskiy's deputy and co-chairman of the republic's Communist Party Vasiliy Novikov on the other hand said Russia has made its choice but unfortunately this time "new brazen lies about the chance to bring immediate happiness to Russia" had won.

Meantime Gennadiy Karpenko, third parliamentary speaker and democratic leader, said that thanks to Yeltsin's victory Belarus could follow Russia's democratic path to reform, which will "act like a tractor" to pull Belarus along.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Belarus: Belarus Suspends Withdrawal of Nuclear Missiles to Russia

LD0307163296 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1539 GMT 3 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MINSK, July 3 (Interfax-West) — Belarus has suspended the withdrawal of strategic nuclear missiles to Russia, Sergey Posokhov, an aide to the Belarussian president, said at a news conference in Minsk Wednesday.

Minsk believes Russia must pay Belarus for the nuclear fuel in the 18 nuclear missiles remaining on Belarussian territory, he said.

He said that Belarus got this idea after a similar deal between Russia and Ukraine.

Minsk and Moscow have held consultations and agreed that after calculations are made, Moscow will pay the required price and Belarus will fulfil the schedule for the missile withdrawal, approved in various international agreements, Posokhov said.

Not a single Russian strategic nuclear missile will remain on Belarussian territory by the end of 1996, he said.

Belarus: President's Aide: Belarus Opposes NATO Expansion

LD0307173196 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1621 GMT 3 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MINSK, July 3 (Interfax-West) — Belarus has a strongly negative attitude to the prospects for NATO's eastward enlargement. However, it cannot stop the process and seeks to minimize possible new factors that could aggravate the military and political situation in Europe, Sergey Posokhov, an aide to the Belarusian president, told a news conference in Minsk Wednesday.

He said Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka's initiative to declare Central and Eastern Europe, including the Baltic countries, a nuclear-free zone was caused by the need to find a new model of European security as soon as possible.

Posokhov said the admission of new members to NATO would inevitably lead to a redeployment of troops in the alliance's member countries and in Russia.

"If, for example, NATO nuclear weapons are deployed in Poland, their launchers will immediately become targets for the Russian strategic missile troops. That is why NATO nuclear weapons would be a threat first of all to Eastern European countries," he said.

Moldova

Moldova: Snegur Hails Yeltsin Victory

LD0407115696 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1053 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] CHISINAU, July 4 (Interfax) - Moldovan President Mircea Snegur has hailed Boris Yeltsin's victory in the second round of voting in Russia's presidential election.

He told Interfax Thursday the Moldovan leadership had supported Yeltsin from the very begining.

"The start of democratic and economic reforms in Russia are linked with Yeltsin's name and they should be continued," he said.

Snegur said he did not allow himself even the thought that the communists would be returned to power in Russia, since their ideas are unacceptable for society. "A return to the past, to the revival of a single state under the former Soviet Union is inadmissable," he said.

"Moldova, like all former Soviet republics, will never give up its independence and sovereignty. We support only mutually profitable cooperation on a bilateral basis, with international organizations and with Russia," he said.

Snegur also said a solution to the Transdniester region conflict depends on Yeltsin.

"With the active participation of the president's special envoy, a draft memorandum on normalizing relations between Moldova and Transdniestria has been prepared, which should be signed in Moscow in the next few days and with which we link hopes for a final solution of this problem, which is painful for Moldova," he said.

Moldova: Yeltsin's Victory To Speed Up Dniester Conflict Solution

LD0407182496 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1623 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] CHISINAU, July 4 (Interfax) — Moldovan President Mircea Snegur told an OSCE [Organization for Security and Cooperation and Europe] envoy Thursday that Boris Yeltsin's victory at the presidential elections will speed up solution of the Transdniester conflict, the presidential press service told Interfax.

Snegur met with head of the OSCE permanent mission in Moldova Branemir Radev to discuss ways to improve the situation in Transdniester, an ethnic-Russian breakaway region of Moldova.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

According to Snegur, the victory of Yeltsin, who represents the country's democratic forces, will give a new impetus to a final removal of disagreements based on the principles of independence, territorial integrity of Moldova, in favor of which Yeltsin has repeatedly spoken.

Yeltsin's success will undoubtedly affect elections to be held in other CIS states and will assist in coming to power of really democratic forces in those countries which advocate economic reforms and democratic transformations.

Meanwhile, chairman of the Moldovan parliament Petr Luchinskiy welcomed victory of President Boris Yeltsin at the second round.

Asked to comment on results of the elections Luchinskiy told Interfax: "The Russian electorate has proved that the people are the major politician, voters have understood that there is no way back and spoke in favor of continuation of reforms, social orientation and stability."

"We are glad of Yeltsin's victory. It inspires confidence that all problems related to consolidation of Moldova's independence and territorial integrity, settlement of the Transdniester conflict, economic relations between our countries will be solved," Luchinskiy said.

Moldova: Dniester Leader Optimistic About Accords With Moldova

AU0307204496 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 2 Jul 96 p 6

[Interview with Dniester Region leader Grigore Marakuta by Anatoliy Martsynovskyy; place and date not given: "Who Said We Would Reach an Agreement?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Grigore Marakuta, one of the Dniester Region's leaders, is an ethnic Moldovan. He speaks Russian with a slight accent. I met him for the first time last December during a referendum on the Constitution of the Moldovan Dniester Republic when the dialogue between the leaders of Moldova and the Dniester Republic was "frozen." The second interview took place recently, the day after Chisinau and Tiraspol initialed the memorandum on the main principles for settling the Dniester conflict. The difference in my interlocutor's mood and tone was tremendous.

[Martsynovskyy] Grigoriy Stepanovich, after our first meeting, I wrote the article entitled "Left Bank, Right Bank....Bridges of Compromise Are Nowhere To Be Seen." It now seems, however, that relations between Chisinau and Tiraspol have changed radically?

[Marakuta] That's right, despite the views of many politicians that so long as the present leaders of the Dniester Republic and Moldova remain in power, no improvement in relations would be possible. Over recent years, we worked out, line by line, a formula that would satisfy both sides. The conversations and meetings were not always pleasant or simple, but we did made progress. Back in 1993, the Supreme Council of the Dniester Republic approved an important document: We offered to Chisinau to maintain a common state within external borders. All that after the war and bloodshed! But then our proposal about the state's confederative structure was looked upon in Chisinau as daydreaming.... Furthermore, in April 1994, a joint statement by the Dniester Republic, Moldova, Russia and the OSCE was adopted stipulating that the sides would refrain from using force against one another. At the same time, Russia, Ukraine, and the OSCE were asked to become guarantors of the fulfillment of those accords between Moldova and the Dniester Republic. In the end, a framework document was recently initialed and will soon be signed, a document that will eventually determine the form of our relations.

[Martsynovskyy] What are the main clauses of the memorandum?

[Marakuta] First, the document states that the Dniester Region is a state-territorial structure in the form of a republic, which, jointly with the Republic of Moldova, will build a single state within the framework of the internationally recognized borders of the Moldovan Republic. Our mutual relations will be determined by agreement, and all problems will be resolved through consensus. Nobody will delegate to Tiraspol any powers "from above," but they will be delegated by one entity to the other. The Dniester Republic will take part in all of Moldova's international negotiations on issues relating to the Dniester Region. Not only will it participate in negotiations, but it will also be able to influence their results. We will have the right to resolve economic, technological, or cultural problems without asking anybody's permission. Apart from this, the Dniester Republic maintains its legislative body, and the republic will have its own flag, anthem, and Constitution. I believe, therefore, that there has been a breakthrough in our relations with Chisinau.

Clearly there are opponents to such a resolution of the problem both in Moldova and here. However, there is a hope that the document will be signed, thus making it and it easier to draft other documents and accords.

[Martsynovskyy] One can surmise that things are developing toward a confederation. Or is the Dniester Republic's autonomy within Moldova possible after all?

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Marakuta] The word "autonomy" is not in the memorandum. There is the word "republic." Yes, one can say that our common state will be based on principles of confederation.

[Martsynovskyy] As far as I can judge, Chisinau has made many concessions to the Dniester Region. What will be your concessions?

[Marakuta] I wouldn't look at it in terms of one party outsmarting the other or somebody making too many concessions.... The principles that have been adopted do not affect Moldova's interests in any way, and I do not see any victory here: Common sense has simply prevailed. As for the ambitions of both sides, they may be sacrificed.

[Martsynovskyy] How will the problems of the army and security service be tackled?

[Marakuta] That will be the subject of future discussions. As for the army, both we and Chisinau have a series of proposals which range from reducing the numerical strength of both armies to disbanding them altogether. I believe this question may be resolved.

[Martsynovskyy] In the light of recent achievements in the dialogue between Chisinau and Tiraspol, how do you view the future of the Russian troops in the Dniester Region? Are they needed here?

[Marakuta] A referendum was held on the presence of Russian troops, and the Dniester Region population voted "in favor." On the other hand, we are now proceeding — and this is recorded in the memorandum — toward a practical development of a mechanism for the guarantors in keeping with the accords; specifically, specifyin what actions Russia and Ukraine would take in the event the accords are violated. It may just happen that the presence of Russian troops will be one of the levers in Russia's implementation of the guarantor functions. Apart from persuasion, there must be some way to put pressure on the countries holding negotiations. Finally, neither the decision on withdrawal nor the decision on the contingent's presence in the Dniester Region can be adopted on an individual basis; these questions must be resolved jointly.

[Martsynovskyy] Ukraine has consistently declared its interest in untangling the Dniester knot? How would you assess its specific actions? Is it doing everything it can?

[Marakuta] Ukraine is not just making declarations; it has contributed a great deal over recent months toward reaching an accord. This pleases us very much because it is, first and foremost, a response to our repeated proposals over recent years. We need closer cooperation with Ukraine: Many Ukrainians reside here; all of our freight passes through your territory; we are connected by a single power engineering system, and so on. Is it doing everything it can? You know, we have always wanted both Ukraine and Russia to do more, but we understand that everybody has their own problems, and it is not always possible to participate in something fully. As regards cooperation with Ukraine, we would like very much to resolve questions of regarding the transit of our goods through its territory. The present Ukrainian customs duty makes our goods uncompetitive. For example, by the time our food products have been transported across Ukraine to Russia, their cost has increased 25-30 percent. We would like to receive Ukraine's assistance in restoring Ukrainian schools, colleges, and kindergartens in the Dniester Region and in training teachers for Ukrainian educational facilities. There are still enormous inconveniences at the level of everyday life: Families have found themselves divided by borders, and Ukrainian border and customs laws do not promote normal ties between relatives. I think we will eventually resolve these questions, but we want it to happen as soon as possible.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan: President Congratulates Yeltsin on Victory

LD0407162396 Almaty Kazakh Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 4 Jul 96

[FBIS Translated Text] [Kazakh President] Nursultan Nazarbayev had a telephone conversation with [Russian President] Boris Yeltsin this morning. On behalf of all the people of the republic and himself personally, the president of Kazakhstan warmly congratulated Boris Yeltsin on his convincing victory in the elections and his reelection to the post of Russian head of state.

Even the preliminary results of the election are convincing evidence that the majority of Russian people support the policy of fundamental changes and social and economic reform, Nazarbayev stressed.

Boris Yeltsin cordially thanked him for his congratulations. At all stages of the election campaign, he said, I felt the support of the people of Kazakhstan. I thank them sincerely for that. Our policy will remain predictable and this is the best guarantee of the stability of the reform policy which the country has chosen.

During the conversation, it was once again stressed that the sides are striving to further strengthen their partnership and to consolidate and expand comprehensive Kazakh-Russian relations, a goal which fully meets the fundamental interests of the peoples of our friendly countries.

In conclusion, Nursultan Nazarbayev wished Boris Yeltsin good health, courage, optimism, and new achievements in his hard work for the sake of the Russian people's happiness and the Russian Federation's well-being and prosperity.

Kazakhstan: Nazarbayev Hails 'Normal' Election in Russia

MM0207134096 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 2 Jul 96

[Interview with Kazakhstani President Nursultan Nazarbayev by Leonid Timofeyev, in Geneva, date not given: "Life in Russia Will Definitely Improve" — from the "Business Tuesday" section p 2]

[FBIS Translated Text] Geneva — The most important person attending an international forum in the Swiss town of Crans-Montana was probably Kazakhstani President Nursultan Nazarbayev. He found a few minutes for our correspondent.

[Timofeyev] Nursultan Abishevich, what are your thoughts on the Russian presidential election?

[Nazarbayev] A normal, democratic, free election has been held in spite of all the negative forecasts. Yeltsin has proved his adherence to the processes of democratization and the market economy.

I am inclined to think that the 30 percent of voters who voted Communist were voting not against the market but against the current authorities because of poor living standards. After all, the results of the economic reforms that have been carried out are only just starting to be felt in Russia: relative stability of the Russian ruble and the beginnings of albeit small industrial growth. This will be followed by investment.

[Timofeyev] How do you assess the consequences of the reshuffles in the Russian leadership?

[Nazarbayev] I think that they were not spontaneous but a considered decision. What happened in the first round should have led not only to some thinking but to some decisions. [Nazarbayev ends]

When asked what the president's attitude was to the threatened closure of KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Kazakhstan (we would recall that following Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's statements in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA the case is being heard by a court), Nursultan Abishevich replied twice. On the forum's opening day he told me in conversation: "I think that everything will be fine. I respect KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA."

A day later his answer was formulated more officially:

"I personally have no misunderstandings with KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA. KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA should now realize that it is operating in independent states and that it has to operate within those countries' legislation. Then everything will be in order."

Kazakhstan: PRC'S Jiang Zemin Arrives on 3-Day Visit

LD0407191696 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1721 GMT 4 Jul 96

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] ALMATY, July 4 (Interfax) — Chairman of the People's Republic of China Jiang Zemin Thursday arrived on a three-day official visit to Almaty.

The Chinese leader will discuss mutual relations, regional and international issues with Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev.

Zemin's written statement, circulated on his arrival in Almaty airport, says that "the visit will open a new

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

prospect for friendship and cooperation between the countries."

The officials are expected to sign a joint declaration "which would bring Kazakhstan and China to a new level of relations directed towards the future," Kazakh Foreign Minister Qasymzhomart Tokayev told Interfax.

The parties will declare their intent to "maintain partnership and cooperation in the next century," he said.

China confirms guarantees of Kazakhstan's security in a declaration made earlier "and expresses respect and support to the activity of the Kazakh leadership aimed at protection of its sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, and development of national economy."

Both parties point to the upcoming growing role of the Asian-Pacific region in the next century, Tokayev said. Mutual relations between Kazakhstan and China, as Asian states, "will play a great role" in this context.

The parties will also sign agreements on certification of import-export goods, inter-bank agreements and an agreement on extradition of criminals.

Jiang Zemin will place a wreath to the memorial of glory in Almaty on July 5 and will plant a tree on the alley of heads of states. The officials will sign documents after bilateral talks. The Chinese leader is scheduled to address the Kazakh parliament and members of the government. He will leave for Beijing on July 6.

Kazakhstan: Nazarbayev, Jiang Zemin Sign Joint Declaration

LD0507091696 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0736 GMT 5 Jul 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] ALMATY, July 5 (Interfax)—Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev and Chinese People's Republic's Chairman Jiang Zemin signed a joint declaration Friday.

Almaty and Beijing pledged their commitment to hard work to improve their relations in the spirit of good neighborliness, friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation on the eve of the 21st century.

The two sides agreed that not only will this serve the basic interests of the two nations but also contribute to peace, stability and development in Asia and in the world.

They also declared the need to develop a regular political dialog. The two sides will start the demarcation of their common border as agreed by them in 1994.

Almaty and Beijing called for an early signing of a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty and for a universal ban on and complete destruction of all the arsenals of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.

Kazakh Foreign Minister Kasymzhomart Tokayev told Interfax Friday that China's guarantees of Kazakhstan's security and support for the steps taken by Kazakhstan to protect its independence and sovereignty was a welcome development.

Also Friday, the two countries signed a treaty on mutual extradition of criminals and criminal suspects and an agreement on cooperation in quality assurance and mutual certification of import-export goods, on China giving the Kazakh government 3 million yuan ($375,000) worth of goods as a gift and on inter-bank cooperation.

Jiang Zemin will address the Kazakh parliament and government in the afternoon.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 352
MERRIFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication produced by the Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS). Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

FBIS collects, translates, disseminates, and analyzes foreign open-source information on behalf of the U.S. Government. Its publications may contain copyrighted material. ***Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.***

— Bracketed indicators before the first sentence of each item describe the way in which the material was processed by FBIS.

— Headlines and all bracketed explanatory notes are supplied by FBIS.

— Personal and place names are rendered in accordance with the decisions of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names as adapted by FBIS. Unverified names in radio and television material appear in parentheses and are spelled phonetically; words and phrases in parentheses preceded by a question mark are unclear in the original and deduced from context.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

U.S. Government Customers

For a list of FBIS products, to subscribe to an FBIS publication, or to indicate a change of address contact:

FBIS
P.O. Box 2604
Washington, DC 20013-2604
Telephone: (202) 338-6735
FAX: (703) 733-6042

Non-Government Customers

Subscriptions are available from the National Technical Information Service:

NTIS
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, VA 22161
Telephone: (703) 487-4630
FAX: (703) 321-8547

New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.